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ELIZABETH ADAMS.

# PORTRAITS, MEMOIRS,

AND

# Characters,

OF

# REMARKABLE PERSONS,

FROM THE

## *REVOLUTION in* 1688

TO THE

## END OF THE REIGN OF GEORGE II.

COLLECTED FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC ACCOUNTS EXTANT.

BY

JAMES CAULFIELD.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

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# MEMOIRS

OF

# *REMARKABLE PERSONS.*

## Elizabeth Adams.

[GEORGE II.

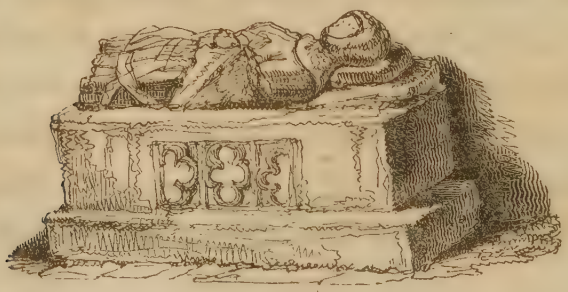
ELIZABETH ADAMS was born in Wiltshire, and had a good education, she was married to one Adams, a barber, in the same county, by whom she had two children living, one about twelve years of age, and another about thirteen. This man she married through the persuasion of her friends, though she knew she could never have any regard for him, having settled her affections on another person. She had been married but little more than two years, before she left her husband and two small children, and came to London, where she had not been long, before she became acquainted with a person who took lodgings for her in Holborn; where one day, as she was calling out of her window to the people at an opposite ale-house, to bring her a pint of beer,

at that very instant, her husband Adams, (being in town on business) was buying fruit of a woman under the window where she lodged. He said to the fruit-woman, "I believe I know that woman's voice; by her speech she should be a Wiltshire woman." You may soon know that, said the woman, by enquiring at the house where she lodges; accordingly her husband went to the house, and asked if there was not a young woman lodged there above stairs; yes, says the mistress of the house, and you may speak with her if you please, Sir; she lodges up one pair of stairs. He went up and knocked at the door, and upon her opening it, to his great astonishment, he found his wife big with child, and to her great surprise she saw her husband. When they had recovered themselves from their mutual surprise, she fell on her knees, crying and begging forgiveness for her past faults, and promising him, at the same time, never to be guilty of any ill thing for the time to come, if he would be kind enough to forgive her, and that she would make him the best of wives. Well, says he, my dear, you had no reason to leave me; but, if you will behave as an honest woman ought to do to her husband, and act a mother's part by your two infants, who can no

way have offended you, I'll look over all your past faults, and will take care of the child which I see you are big with, in the same manner as if it was my own. In a short time he paid for her lodgings, and took a house in Houndsditch, and furnished it, in order to settle in London, designing to send for his two children; but he had not been three weeks in the house, before he was informed that his goods would be seized for the ground-rent; being surprised with the news, he acquainted his wife with it, when she advised him to take two or three rooms unfurnished in the neighbourhood, to put their goods in, which accordingly he did, and desired her, at the same time, to pack them up and send them there, he being obliged to set out the next day for Wiltshire, to settle his affairs there, and his design being likewise to bring up his children with him; but no sooner was he gone, than she sent for a broker, and sold all the goods to him, and put the money in her pocket; went and took lodgings in Drury-lane, and never saw her husband, during a space of between nine and ten years, to the time of her conviction. After she left her husband she had four children by one person, and two by another; she acknowledged she had been very undutiful to her mother, and

likewise had wronged the best of husbands. It was reported she once kept a coffee-house, which she denied, and said she never was mistress of any public-house in her life; she expressed a hope that her father, (who keeps an inn on the Bristol road) her husband, and children, would not hear of her ignominious death.

She was indicted with Thomas Carr, an attorney, for the robbery of Mr. Quarrington, under very aggravating circumstances. The part she took in this affair, was stopping the prosecutor's mouth with her handkerchief, Mrs. Prevost holding one of his legs, while Carr forcibly robbed him of his money, for which, as an accomplice, she was found guilty, and suffered death at Tyburn, with Carr, January 18, 1737-8. Mrs. Prevost escaped punishment by flight. Elizabeth Adams is introduced in the sixth plate of Hogarth's Harlot's Progress, holding a conversation with Orator Henley.



EUGENE ARAM

convicted at York Aſsizes Aug$^{t}$ 3$^{d}$. 1759. for the murder of Dan$^{l}$ Clark of knareſborough in the county of York. His body was hung in Chains purſuant to his ſentance in knareſborough foreſt. Executed fourteen Years after the murder. His own defence is very artful and ingenious, but yet before he ſuffer'd he confeſs'd the fact.

## Eugene Aram.

In the year 1759, a man digging for limestone, near a place called St. Robert's Cave, in the parish of Knaresborough, in the county of York, found the bones of a human body. Wondering how this should come to pass, and why a body should be buried in such a lonely place, he began to suspect that somebody had been murdered, and secretly buried there, the better to conceal it from the public. On his return to Knaresborough, he discoved this matter to several people, which made it the topic of common conversation. Various conjectures ensued: however, one person said, that he remembered, that, about fifteen years before, one Daniel Clarke absented himself all of a sudden, and never had been heard of again. On his mentioning this affair, some of the people recollected that they had heard a woman in town declare, that she had it in her power to hang her husband, (who had been absent from her several years) and some others in the neighbourhood.

They began to recollect also that Daniel Clarke frequently bought upon credit, and often borrowed

among his friends, a large quantity of silver plate, jewels, watches, rings, &c. "Aye," says one, "I sold a silver tankard to him," another a salver, another a pepper-box, &c. pretending that a merchant of London had sent him an order to buy as much silver-plate as he could for exportation: and Clarke being well known, they gave him any credit he desired, as he was punctual in his payments always, till his sudden disappearance in February, 1744-5. That they then imagined he was gone off with the effects, and gone a voyage somewhere abroad.—These circumstances duly considered, made them search farther, and take up the woman; in consequence of which, Richard Houseman, Eugene Aram, and Henry Terry, were apprehended, being the last people seen with Clarke.

Indictments were prepared against them for murder, and Richard Houseman was brought to the bar, at the assizes held at York, August 3, 1759, and tried; but there not being sufficient evidence to convict him, he was acquitted; and as there appeared something remarkable in his behaviour, and something that lay on his mind which he wanted to divulge to the court, he was, though a principal, admitted as an evidence on behalf of the crown, and was examined

as such on the trial of Aram. The court asked him if he knew Daniel Clarke, how long since he was acquainted with him, and how he came by his death. Houseman said he knew him well, and had been acquainted with him for some years before his death, which happened the beginning of the year 1745. The court asked him in what manner Clarke came by his death; if he did not believe he was murdered, and by Eugene Aram. Houseman was staggered at these questions, and after great confusion said, that as he was under the obligation of a sacred oath to divulge the truth, he would no longer burthen his conscience with the concealment of facts which ought long ago to have been made known, and to have been punished with the utmost rigour of the law. That it was true, in accusing Aram, he could not entirely acquit himself; but, as it appeared to him that divine providence had interposed, and that the whole account of this murder must be brought to light, though buried fourteen years in oblivion, he could not, nor would he, screen the criminal any longer from the impending stroke of justice. He then opened the secrets of his heart, and acknowledged he remembered well the time, manner, and occasion of Clarke's death; that it happened between

the 7th and 8th of February, 1744-5; he then proceeded in the following manner:—After passing above two hours to and fro between their several houses, in consulting by what ways and means to dispose of various goods which Clarke had in possession, and to settle some account relating thereto, Eugene Aram proposed first to Clarke, and then to him, (Houseman) to take a walk out of town. Accordingly it was agreed to, and they walked into a field, at a small distance from the town, where there is a cave, particularly well known in the neighbourhood of Knaresborough, by the name of St. Robert's cave; that, when they came into the said field, Aram and Clarke went over the hedge, towards the cave, and being come within six or seven yards of it, he saw Aram strike Clarke several times; and at last saw him fall, but never saw him afterwards. That he (Houseman,) saw no instrument or weapon in Aram's hand, but could not swear positively to it, as it was in the night time; that he did not interpose or any way hinder his (Aram's) committing this murder, nor did he make any alarm in the neighbourhood. That his only reason for not discovering this murder before, was Aram's threatening his life.

Houseman having given his evidence of this dark

affair, Aram desired liberty of the court to ask him some questions; which was allowed him:—First.—How could he so positively swear, that he saw him (Aram) strike Clarke, when he had owned that it was done in the night, in the depth of winter, in the month of February, when every body knows the nights are very dark? Second.—At what distance was he from him when he saw him strike Clarke? Third.—Why did not he (Houseman) go over the hedge with him and Clarke into the field, as they came out together, and had no business to talk of, but what concerned them all? To the first—Houseman said, that though it was done at night, yet the moon was then up, and though, by the interposition of the clouds, she did not give much light, yet it was light enough to distinguish objects at a small distance, though not very distinctly, and he could see, by the motion of his hand, that he was striking Clarke, though he could not perceive the weapon with which he struck him. To the second.—That, to the best of his judgment and recollection, he believes that Aram and Clarke were about ten or a dozen yards on the other side of the hedge, when he saw him strike Clarke. And to the third.—To give a direct answer to that question might affect him

(Houseman) much. To say he never knew what Aram's designs was, and that he staid behind on purpose to give him an opportunity to effect what he was about, would have been to confess himself an accessary. Therefore, he hoped the court would not oblige him to answer a question, the answer to which might imply an accusation of himself, and have a tendency to bring his own life into danger. The court, who plainly saw through what Houseman meant, freed him from the embarrassment, by giving him the liberty not to answer it, if he foresaw that by it he should be forced to accuse himself, which the law obliges no man to do.

Many witnesses were examined, particularly the man who found the skeleton; some proved Clarke's way of living, his buying plate, jewels, watches, rings, &c, of buying various articles of him, his great credit, and his absenting himself all of a sudden, which corroborated what Houseman had deposed.

Aram was desired by the court to produce his evidences; but he for answer said, that all the people which could be of use to him were dead, or dispersed about the kingdom, that he knew not where to find them. Being called upon to make his defence, he said,

he hoped the court would accept of his exculpation in writing, which he had drawn up for that purpose. That the confusion and terror of his mind was so great, and so powerfully wrought on his spirits upon that awful occasion, that he was afraid he should not be able to speak properly and methodically; therefore had prepared his defence, which he presumed was not contrary to law, or the established rules of the court. The court indulged him, and he read the following defence:—

"My Lord,

"I know not whether it is right, or through some indulgence of your lordship, that I am allowed the liberty at this bar, and at this time, to attempt a defence; incapable, and uninstructed as I am to speak. Since, while I see so many eyes upon me, so numerous and awful a concourse, fixed with attention, and filled with I know not what expectancy, I labour not with guilt, my lord, but with perplexity; for, having never seen a court but this, being wholly unacquainted with law, the customs of the bar, and all judiciary proceedings, I fear I shall be so little capable of speaking with propriety in this place,

that it exceeds my hope, if I shall be able to speak at all.

" I have heard, my lord, the indictment read, wherein I find myself charged with the highest crime; with an enormity myself altogether incapable of; a fact, to the commission of which there goes far more insensibility of heart, more profligacy of morals, than ever fell to my lot. And nothing possibly could have admitted a presumption of this nature, but a depravity not inferior to that imputed to me. However, as I stand indicted at your lordship's bar, and have heard what is called evidence adduced in support of such a charge, I very humbly solicit your lordship's patience, and beg the hearing of this respectable audience, while I, single and unskilful, destitute of friends, and unassisted by council, say something, perhaps like argument, in my defence. I shall consume but little of your lordship's time; what I have to say will be short, and this brevity, probably, will be the best part of it; however, it is offered with all possible regard, and the greatest submission to your lordship's consideration, and that of this honorable court.

" First, my lord, the whole tenor of my conduct

in life contradicts every particular of this indictment. Yet had I never said this, did not my present circumstances extort it from me, and seem to make it necessary. Permit me here, my lord, to call upon malignity itself, so long and cruelly busied in this prosecution, to charge upon me any immorality, of which prejudice was not the author. No, my lord, I concerted not schemes of fraud, projected no violence, injured no man's property; my days were honestly laborious, my nights intensely studious. And, I humbly conceive, my notice of this, especially at this time, will not be thought impertinent, or unseasonable; but, at least, deserving some attention: because, my lord, that any person, after a temperate use of life, a series of thinking and acting regularly, and without one single deviation from sobriety, should plunge into the very depth of profligacy, precipitately, and at once, is altogether improbable and unprecedented, and absolutely inconsistent with the course of things. Mankind is never corrupted at once: villany is always progressive and declines from right, step by step, till every regard of probity is lost, and every sense of all moral obligation totally perishes.

"Again, my lord, a suspicion of this kind, which

nothing but malevolence could entertain, and ignorance propagate, is violently opposed, by my very situation at that time, with respect to health; for, but a little space before, I had been confined to my bed, and suffered under a very long and severe disorder, and was not able, for half a year together, so much as to walk. The distemper left me, indeed, yet slowly, and in part, but so macerated, so enfeebled, that I was reduced to crutches; and, so far from being well about the time I am charged with this fact, that I never, to this day, perfectly recovered. Could then a person in this condition take any thing into his head so unlikely, so extravagant? I, past the vigour of my age, feeble, and valetudinary, with no inducement to engage, no ability to accomplish, no weapon wherewith to perpetrate such a fact; without interest, without power, without motive, without means. Besides, it must needs occur to every one, that an action of this atrocious nature is never heard of but, when its springs are laid open, it appears that it was to support some indolence, or supply some luxury; to satisfy some avarice, or oblige some malice; to prevent some real, or some imaginary want; yet I lay not under the influence of any of these. Surely, my lord, I may, consistent

with both truth and modesty, affirm thus much; and none who have any veracity, and know me, will ever question this.

"In the second place, the disappearance of Clark, is suggested as an argument of his being dead; but the uncertainty of such an inference from that, and the fallibility of all conclusions of such a sort, from such a circumstance, are too obvious, and too notorious, to require instances. For all the vigilance of this place, in open day-light, and double ironed, Thompson made his escape; and, notwithstanding an immediate enquiry set on foot, the strictest search, and all advertisements, was never seen or heard of since. If, then, Thompson got off unseen, through all these difficulties, how very easy was it for Clarke, when none of them opposed him? but what would be thought of a prosecution commenced against any one seen last with Thompson?

"Permit me, next, my lord, to observe a little upon the bones which have been discovered. It is said, which perhaps is saying very far, that these are the skeleton of a man. It is possible, indeed it may: but is there any certain, known criterion, which incontestibly distinguishes the sex in human

bones? Let it be considered, my lord, whether the ascertaining of this point ought not to precede any attempt to identify them.—The place of their depositum, too, claims much more attention than is commonly bestowed upon it; for, of all places in the world, none could have mentioned any one wherein there was greater certainty of finding human bones, than a hermitage, except he should point out a church-yard: hermitages, in times past, being not only places of religious retirement, but of burial too. And it has scarce or never been heard of, but that every cell now known contains, or contained, these relicts of humanity, some mutilated, and some entire. I do not inform, but give me leave to remind your lordship, that here sat solitary sanctity, and here the hermit, or the anchoress, hoped that repose for their bones when dead, they here enjoyed when living.

"All this while, my lord, I am sensible this is known to your lordship, and many in this court, better than I; but it seems necessary to my case that others, who have not at all, perhaps, adverted to things of this nature, and may have concern in my trial, should be made acquainted with it. Suffer me then, my lord, to produce a few of many

evidences, that these cells were used as repositories of the dead, and to enumerate a few, in which human bones have been found, as it happened in this in question; lest to some that accident might seem extraordinary, and, consequently, occasion prejudice.

"I. The bones, as was supposed, of the Saxon St. Dubritius, were discovered buried in his cell at Guy's Cliff, near Warwick, as appears from the authority of Sir William Dugdale.

"II. The bones, thought to be those of the anchoress Rosia, were but lately discovered in a cell at Royston, entire, fair, and undecayed, though they must have lain interred for several centuries, as is proved by Dr. Stukely.

"III. But our own country, nay, almost this neighbourhood, supplies another instance; for in January, 1747, was found, by Mr. Stovin, accompanied by a reverend gentleman, the bones, in part, of some recluse, in the cell at Lindholm, near Hatfield. They were believed to be those of William of Lindholm, a hermit, who had long made this cave his habitation.

"IV. In February, 1744, part of Wooburn Abbey

being pulled down, a large portion of a corpse appeared, even with the flesh on, and which bore cutting with a knife; though it is certain this had lain above two hundred years, and how much longer is doubtful; for this abbey was founded in 1145, and dissolved in 1538-9.

"What would have been said, what believed, if this had been an accident to the bones in question?

"Farther, my lord, it is not yet out of living memory, that a little distance from Knaresborough, in a field, part of the manor of the worthy and patriotic baronet, who does that borough the honour to represent it in parliament, were found, in digging for gravel, not one human skeleton only, but five or six deposited side by side, with each an urn placed at its head, as your lordship knows was usual in ancient interments.

"About the same time, and in another field almost close to this borough, was discovered also, in searching for gravel, another human skeleton; but the piety of the same worthy gentleman ordered both pits to be filled up again, commendably unwilling to disturb the dead.

"Is the invention of these bones forgotten then, or industriously concealed, that the discovery of those in

question may appear the more singular and extraordinary? Whereas, in fact, there is nothing extraordinary in it. My lord, almost every place conceals such remains: in fields, in hills, in highway-sides, in commons, lie frequent and unsuspected bones. And our present allotments for rest for the departed, is but of some centuries.

"Another particular seems not to claim a little of your lordship's notice, and that of the gentlemen of the jury, which is, that, perhaps, no example occurs of more than one skeleton being found in one cell: and in the cell in question was found but one; agreeable in this to the peculiarity of every other known cell in Britain. Not the invention of one skeleton, but of two, would have appeared suspicious and uncommon.

"But it seems another skeleton has been discovered by some labourer, which was full as confidently averred to be Clarke's as this. My lord, must some of the living, if it promotes some interest, be made answerable for all the bones that earth has concealed and chance exposed? and might not a place where bones lay, be mentioned by a person by chance, as well as found by a labourer by chance?

or, is it more criminal accidentally to name where bones lie, than accidentally to find where they lie?

"Here, too, is a human skull produced, which is fractured; but was this the cause, or was it the consequence, of death? Was it owing to violence? or was it the effect of natural decay? If it was violence, was that violence before or after death? My lord, in May, 1732, the remains of William, lord-archbishop of this province, were taken up, by permission, in this cathedral, and the bones of the skull were found broken; yet certainly he died by no violence offered to him alive, that could occasion that fracture there.

"Let it be considered, my lord, that, upon the dissolution of religious houses, and the commencement of the reformation, the ravages of those times affected the living and the dead. In search after imaginary treasures, coffins were broken up, graves and vaults dug open, monuments ransacked, and shrines demolished; and it also did, about the beginning of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. I entreat your lordship, suffer not the violences, the depredations, and the iniquities of those times to be imputed to this.—Moreover, what gentleman here is ignorant

that Knaresborough had a castle, which, though now a ruin, was once considerable both for its strength and garrison. All know it was vigorously besieged by the arms of the parliament: at which siege, in sallies, conflicts, flights, pursuits, many fell in all the places around it; and where they fell, were buried; for every place, my lord, is burial earth in war; many, questionless, of these, rest yet unknown, whose bones futurity shall discover.—I hope, with all imaginable submission, that what has been said will not be thought impertinent to this indictment; and that it will be far from the wisdom, the learning, and the integrity of this place, to impute to the living what zeal in its fury may have done; what nature may have taken off, and piety interred; or what war alone may have destroyed, alone deposited.

"As to the circumstances that have been raked together, I have nothing to observe; but that all circumstances whatsoever are precarious, and have been but too frequently found lamentably fallible; even the strongest have failed. They may rise to the utmost degree of probability, yet they are but probability still. Why need I name to your lordship the two Harrisons, recorded by Dr. Howel, who both suffered upon circumstances, because of the sudden disappearance of

their lodger, who was in credit, and had contracted debts, borrowed money, and went off unseen, and returned a great many years after their execution. Why name the intricate affair of Jaques du Moulin, under King Charles II. related by a gentleman who was counsel for the crown: and why the unhappy Coleman, who suffered innocent, though convicted upon positive evidence, and whose children perished for want, because the world uncharitably believed the father guilty. Why mention the perjury of Smith, incautiously admitted King's evidence; who, to screen himself, equally accused Faireloth and Loveday of the murder of Dunn; the first of whom, in 1749, was executed at Winchester; and Loveday was about to suffer at Reading, had not Smith been proved perjured, to the satisfaction of the court, by the surgeon of the Gosport hospital.

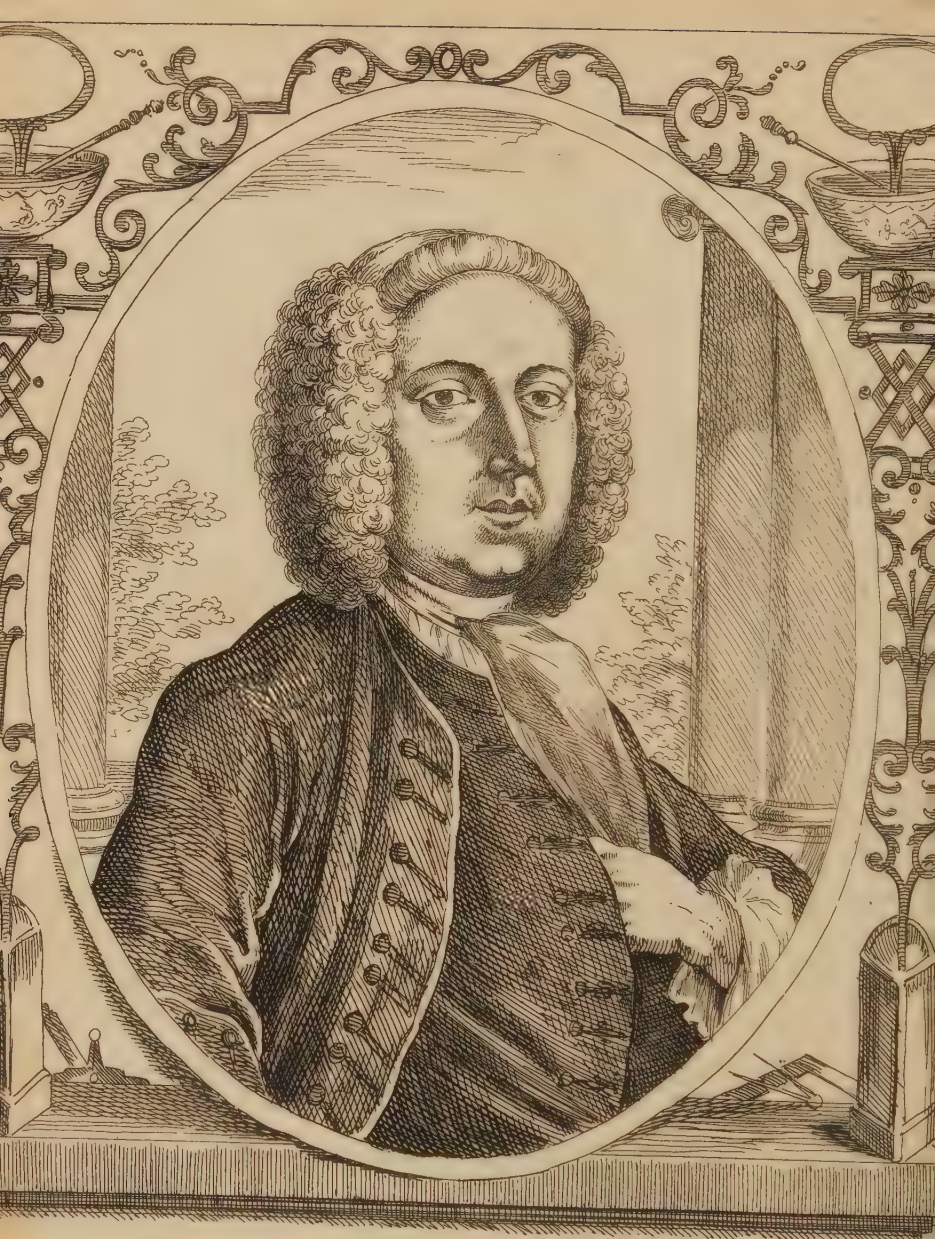
"Now, my lord, having endeavoured to shew that the whole of this process is altogether repugnant to every part of my life; that it is inconsistent with my condition of health about that time; that no rational inference can be drawn, that a person is dead who suddenly disappears; that hermitages were the constant repositories of the bones of the recluse; that the revolutions in religion, or the fortune of

war, has mangled or buried the dead; the conclusion remains, perhaps, no less reasonably than impatiently wished for. I, at last, after a year's confinement, equal to either fortune, put myself upon the candour, the justice, and the humanity of your lordship, and upon yours, my countrymen, gentlemen of the jury."

The judge summed up the evidence, and the jury, TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COURT, brought in their verdict, guilty—DEATH.

After conviction, a minister was appointed to attend him, and to reason with him on the heinousness of the crime of committing murder, in order to bring him to the confession of his guilt. It is said, he seemed attentive to these admonitions, and faithfully promised to disburthen his conscience, and to make his peace with God; but there is strong reasons to suppose that he never communicated his thoughts to any one, and that the letter which it is reported he wrote and sent to a friend, confessing the murder, is nothing more or less than a forgery, to please the illiterate jurymen, who could not comprehend or appreciate properly the force and sense of Aram's reasoning.—Left to himself, and dreading the exposure of a public execution, he resolved to put an

end to his existence by his own hand; and the morning appointed for his execution being come, the keeper went to his cell to bring him out, and to his great surprise found him almost expiring, having with a razor cut his left arm, above the elbow, and a little above the wrist, but missed the artery, by which means he had lost so much blood, that he was rendered very weak: a surgeon was sent for, who presently stopped the bleeding, and he was carried to the place of execution; where, though he was quite sensible, yet so feeble that he could not stand; a clergyman prayed with him, but being in so weak a condition, he was incapable of giving any attention. He was executed, and his body carried to Knaresborough Forest, where it was hung in chains, August, 1759.



JAMES ASHLEY.

# James Ashley.

JAMES ASHLEY, a brandy-merchant, residing in Bread-street, London, in the year 1752, was brought into considerable notice by a transaction which took place between him and Henry Simons, a Polish jew, who represented himself as being robbed by a person named Joseph Goddard, a publican, at Cranford-bridge, of five hundred and fifty-four ducats, which he had brought to England, for the purpose of laying out in watches and other goods. On this charge Goddard was tried at the Old Bailey, and honorably acquitted. Subsequently, a bill of indictment was preferred and found by the grand jury for the county of Middlesex, against Simons, for wilful and corrupt perjury. Ashley, who was present at the examination of Goddard, when charged with the robbery before Justice Chamberlayne, and understanding, on Goddard's acquittal, an indictment for perjury was issued against the jew, accidentally meeting Simons travelling on foot towards Ilford, from whence Ashley was coming to London,

he gave information to a Mr. Ford, agent for Goddard, of the circumstance, who prevailed on him to accompany his clerk, in order to take the jew into custody, under a warrant he had in his possession; thinking Simons was making his way to Harwich, in order to escape out of the kingdom, Ashley and the clerk, having travelled in a post-chaise, gained information from a boy, near Witham, in Essex, that the jew was but a little way before; they followed, secured, and placed him in a cart, in order to carry him before a justice; but, it being in the evening, they gave him in charge of a constable, who kept him all night. In the morning, the magistrate, before whom they carried him, advised them to conduct him to Chelmsford, where the justices of the county were then sitting, who, on learning the nature of the business, declined to act, and recommended the party to convey the jew to London; but, stopping at a public-house in Chelmsford, Simons accused Ashley of robbing him of some ducats, of which three appearing to be in one of his coat-pockets, among some walnuts, he insisted the jew had surreptitiously conveyed them there, for the purpose of revenging the zeal he had evinced in causing his apprehension. The warrant for the apprehension of Simons not

having been backed by an Essex magistrate, was deemed illegal; and Simons being acquitted on the charge of perjury, his friends brought an action against Ashley, on account of the mistake in the warrant for apprehending the jew, and detaining him thirteen hours in custody, when a verdict was given against Ashley and other persons, for two hundred pounds damages. On this decision, Mr. Ashley published his case and appeal, and having taken a house on Ludgate-hill, opened it as a punch-house, *pro bono publico*, and drew considerable trade, by selling that beverage from two-penny glasses to any quantity. The pamphlet, with the portrait of Simons, was sold by Mr. Ashley to his customers at this place, and at his brandy-warehouse, in Bread-street, at the price of sixpence. Finding his punch-trade extremely beneficial, he relinquished his other pursuits, and died at Ludgate-hill, in 1776, aged seventy-eight years.

# Thomas Bambridge,

WARDEN OF THE FLEET-PRISON.

The cruelty and oppression experienced by unfortunate persons confined for debt in various prisons throughout England, but more particularly that of the Fleet, called forth the interposition of parliament, in the year 1729, to enquire into the state of the different prisons, with a view to correct the abuses, so generally complained against; and, in a committee appointed by the House of Commons, Bambridge, and Huggins, his predecessor,* were

* The wardenship of the *Fleet*, a patent office, was purchased of the Earl of *Clarendon*, for five thousand pounds, by *John Huggins*, Esq. who was in high favor with *Sunderland* and *Craggs*, and consequently obnoxious to their successors. *Huggins's* term in the patent was for his own life and his son's. But, in August, 1728, being far advanced in years, and his son not caring to take upon himself so troublesome an office, he sold their term in the patent for the same sum it had cost him, to Thomas *Bambridge*, and *Dougal Cuthbert*. *Huggins* lived to the age of ninety.

# BAMBRIDGE,

(Dep.y Warden of the Fleet Prison.)

declared "notoriously guilty of great breaches of trust, extortions, cruelties, and other high crimes and misdemeanors;" both were sent to Newgate, and Bambridge was incapacitated, by act of parliament, to enjoy the office of warden of the Fleet. A very circumstantial account, with remarks on the transactions of Bambridge and other keepers of the *Fleet-prison*, was drawn up by Mr. *Rayner*, in his reading on stat. 2, George II. chap. 32.

Pennant, in his account of London, informs us, "The year after the House of Commons had taken up the enquiries, and found *Huggins*, the warden, *Bambridge*, his deputy, and *William Acton*, turnkey, had exercised most shocking cruelties, those monsters were tried for the murder of five unhappy men, who died under the most horrid treatment from them. Yet, notwithstanding the prosecution, was recommended from the throne, and conducted by the ablest lawyers; to the concern of all good men, those wretches escaped their merited punishment.

Lord Orford had a sketch in oil given him by Hogarth, which has since been engraved; the scene is "The Committee;" on the table are the instruments of torture. A prisoner, in rags, half-starved, appears before them; the poor man has a good countenance,

that adds to the interest. On the other hand is the inhuman gaoler; it is the very figure that *Salvator Rosa* would have drawn for *Iago* in the moment of detection. Villany, fear, and conscience, are mixed in yellow and livid on his countenance; his lips are contracted by tremor, his face advances as eager to lie, his legs step back as thinking to make his escape; one hand is thrust precipitately into his bosom, the fingers of the other are catching uncertainly at his button-holes. If this was a portrait, it is the most striking that ever was drawn; if it was not, it is still finer. The portrait intended was that of Bambridge.*

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* The accompanying portrait of Bambridge, which is of undoubted authenticity, though it represents him while under examination, does not convey the horrid idea of a delinquent the above representation from Hogarth's pencil so strongly characterises.

A report from the committee appointed to enquire into the state of the gaols of this kingdom, relating to the Marshalsea prison, with the resolutions of the House of Commons thereupon, was published in 4to. 1729, and re-printed in 8vo. at Dublin, the same year. It appears by a MS. note of *Oldy's*, cited in *British Topography*, Vol. I. p. 636, that Bambridge cut his throat twenty years after.

JACOB BATES,

(Horse Rider.)

# Jacob Bates,

THE CELEBRATED HORSE-RIDER.

JACOB BATES, as an equestrian performer, took the lead of the famous Johnson, Astley, sen. and, indeed, of any horseman of his time. It does not appear he ever publicly exhibited in England, but on the Continent he met with so much applause and encouragement as induced him to reside there for several years. He seems to have been particularly patronized in Germany, and at *Nuremburg*, in 1766, his portrait was engraved on a large sheet size, by *G. P. Nusbiegel;* in the back ground of which is represented a large field railed in, and his various performances on one, two, three, and four horses. By the appearance of the crowd of spectators assembled, among whom are some princely and noble personages in carriages, it seems this species of entertainment must have been very attractive; in horsemanship the English are confessed by foreigners greatly to excel any other nation, and the late Philip Astley had, for many years previous to the French revolu-

tion, a regular academy in Paris, for teaching horsemanship, as well as for the exhibition of his equestrian and other performances.

In excellence and agility as a horseman, Bates appears to have been no way inferior to the riders of the present time; or in the exploit of firing pistols in full speed, under the belly of his horse, managing two, three, or four coursers at full speed, jumping, and dancing from the back of one to the other, was nothing behind them in dexterity, and it must have been a more difficult undertaking to perform these feats on a level plain, than aided, as at present, by an enclosed and prepared circular ride.

Notice is made by Bromley, in his catalogue of English portraits, of a very scarce print of Bates, by *J. E. Ridinger*, the celebrated draughtsman and engraver of animals. We are at a loss to know whether Bates ever returned to England, or died abroad.

BELGRADE AND CLUMSEY.

# Belgrade,

## A CAMP-SUTLER.

THIS singular female, whose masculine features and appearance every way suited the occupation she chose for her livelihood, attached herself to the British soldiery, and followed the camp as a sutler. She was only known by the name of *Belgrade*, and was so called from being in the noted battle which took place in Hungary, at a city of that name. She came to the brigade of English Horse-guards at Waesbaden, on the Rhine, in Germany, and continued faithfully serving them with provisions, &c. and was remarkable for exposing her person even in the very heat of action, by assisting the wounded and distressed. All the female followers of a camp do not bear quite so humane and charitable a character; Smollett, in his admirable adventures of Ferdinand Count Fathom, gives an animated picture of his hero's mother, who followed the army, under the same employ as

*Belgrade;* but, unlike the latter, instead of alleviating and assisting the wounded and distressed, the field of battle inspired her with no other feeling but plunder! in the pursuit of which, she kindly eased the wretched victims, (not quite dead) of their lives as well as property, for her own better security of enjoying the spoils.

*Belgrade* was attended in her peregrinations by a favorite dog, named *Clumsey*, who rendered himself truly remarkable at the battle of Dettingen; when the two armies faced each other, a few minutes before the attack began, there came a French dog from the enemies' front, and immediately our English dog met him in the interval, fell upon him, and beat him back into his line, after which he quietly returned to us. General Burgoyne, in his opera of the *Lord of the Manor*, has given a description of one of these amazons, in the spirited character of *Moll Flagon.*

Mr HENRY BLACKER,

(The Irish Giant.)

# Henry Blacker.

At all periods, and in every country, persons have been found greatly to exceed the ordinary stature of mankind in general. It is recorded, that Ferdinand Magellan (before he came to the Straits which now bear his name) came to the country of the Patagonians, the people of which are of a most gigantic bulk and height; some of these he enticed on board his ship; they were of so huge a stature, that the Spaniards' heads reached but to their waist. Two of them he made his prisoners by policy; who, thereupon, roared like bulls; their feeding was answerable to their vast bulk; for one of them did eat, at a meal, a whole basket of biscuits, and drank a great bowl of water at each draught.

Commodore Byron, in some degree, corroborates the account given of the Patagonians: with, however, this abatement in the size of the people, that the general standard they measured, was from six

feet six inches to seven feet in height, and bulk proportionable to their stature.

Our own, and the sister-kingdom, Ireland, have produced what have been denominated giants, of still greater dimension than Byron describes the Patagonians; amongst whom may rank Mr. Henry Blacker, commonly called the British Giant. He was born near Cuckfield, in Sussex, in the year 1724. In the year 1751, when he was about twenty-seven years of age, he was publicly exhibited in London, and attracted great numbers, out of curiosity, to see a man measuring the immense height of seven feet four inches, which considerably exceeded that of a celebrated German giant, named Cajanus, who was shewn, and received with great success and applause, as a prodigy, some few years prior to Blacker's exhibition of himself. A great many of the first nobility and gentry honored Mr. Blacker by their frequent visits, and among others the celebrated William, Duke of Cumberland, was one of his greatest followers and admirers.

This man appears, from his portrait, to have been a much better-made and proportioned person than

the generality of those of a similar description, and though the famous O'Brien, who measured eight feet two inches, exceeded him ten inches in height, he was knocked-kneed, very unwieldy, and clumsily made.

# Mary Blandy.

Miss Mary Blandy was the only daughter of Mr. Francis Blandy, attorney-at-law, and town-clerk of Henley, in Oxfordshire, who married the daughter of Mr. Serjeant Stephens.—As they had no issue of their marriage but this daughter, they were extremely fond of her; and, therefore, made it their whole study to furnish her with the best accomplishments of her sex. This task her mother undertook, and not only instructed her in those rudiments of knowledge which were proper for one of her rank, but likewise instilled into her the principles of religion and piety. Miss soon discovered a happy genius, in imbibing and improving the endowments given by her mother. As to her temper, she was sprightly, affable, and polite; and, with respect to her person, though she could not be reckoned a beauty, yet was agreeable, and her conversation engaging.

With regard to her father, Mr. Blandy, he lived in great reputation, his business flourishing, and he well

MISS MARY BLANDY.

respected by all sorts of people. Thus happily situated, he thought it a piece of policy to cherish the good opinion the world entertained of him, and his opulent circumstances, in order that some gentleman of estate might seek his alliance in the marriage of his daughter. But be this as it will, the young lady was cried up for a great fortune, and consequently drew a great number of admirers and visitants to her father's house; but, among all her admirers, none were so remarkably distinguished as the gentlemen of the army; and, indeed, Mr. Blandy himself was so delighted with the conversation of these officers, that he was never better pleased than when he entertained some of them at his table.

It is easy to imagine, that when she was arrived at years of maturity, she had an inclination to marry, and that several disappointments she met with, by the dislike of her father to the offers that had been made, had pretty much soured her temper, and even raised in her mind a dislike to him, as appeared plain enough from her saying "that the old gentleman did not use her well; that when likely offers were made, he found means to evade giving his consent for her marriage, because he did not chuse to give her a fortune."—But, among all Miss Blandy's

admirers, her more especial regards were for the gentlemen of the army; and it was generally supposed she was on the point of marriage with one Captain D———, with whom she frequently walked in the fields and meadows about Henley, and seemed very fond of him on all occasions: but, whatever was the reason, this match was not concluded; and she unfortunately formed an acquaintance with Captain William Henry Cranstoun, of a noble family in Scotland, the paternal estate of which, however, was not large; and, as the captain was a younger son, the fortune which was left him was no more than five hundred pounds, the interest of which, at five per cent., was his whole subsistence, to be paid him by his elder brother, in whose hands the principal was vested. To help him out of this narrow situation, his friends got him a commission in the army; but the captain, intoxicated with the high notions of his nobility, could not confine his expences to his income; but an affectation of politeness, of taste, in all the fashionable diversions, reduced him to such streights and difficulties as often put him upon unwarrantable means to remedy his wants. Cranstoun was about forty-six years of age, and though of a mean aspect, yet was possessed of talent,

that generally take with the fair sex; that is, a genteel behaviour, complaisance, and polite flattery. After the captain's first accidental interview with Miss Blandy at Lord Mark Kerr's, being much delighted with her conversation, and much more so when he understood she was a great fortune, he soon found means to insinuate himself into the acquaintance of her father, which was not very difficult to do after a man knew his weak side; which was, to be fond of applause, with an affectation of familiarity and friendship with men of figure and eminence. Cranstoun knew how to turn this foible to his own advantage; accordingly, he made frequent visits in Mr. Blandy's family, where he never failed of making a parade of his noble birth, and great alliances, by which means he gained so great a share in the old gentleman's favor, that he was never easy but when he enjoyed the captain's company; this gave him every opportunity of paying his court to the young lady, which he did with such success as to gain an absolute command of her affections; though he was diminutive in his stature, disfigured by the small-pox to such a degree that his face appeared in seams, blear-eyed, and of a very mean aspect. After some time, Cranstoun declared himself, and, to

convince Miss Blandy of his sincerity, and to prevent her surprise from any intelligence she might afterwards receive, he told her he had a very intricate affair then depending in Scotland, which was no less than a charge of being married to another woman, and modestly asked her if she loved him well enough to stay till this affair was determined, as it was to be tried in a court of judicature; to which she condescendingly replied, "If my papa and mamma would approve of my staying for you, I readily consent."

This courtship, however, was not managed so secretly but it came to the ear of Lord Mark Kerr, the captain's uncle, who immediately informed Mr. Blandy, that he might preserve the honor of his family, and his daughter from ruin; assuring him that Mr. Cranstoun had then a wife and children in Scotland. Mr. Blandy was greatly alarmed, and instantly acquainted his daughter with it, and likewise the captain; she was not at all surprised at the news, being before prepared for it; and as to the captain, he put on a good assurance, declared that it was no more than a little scene of gallantry; that he had entered into an idle contract with a girl in Scotland, but that he was never legally married; that he was able to set it aside without the least difficulty, and that

he would soon do it by an appeal. The mother, it seems, was no less infatuated than her love-sick daughter; for when the captain averred upon his soul that he never was married, she only replied, very well, I will take your word for that, which, if not true, must necessarily be the utter ruin of my only and beloved child.

Though Cranstoun seemed to make light of the Scotch marriage, and carried it off with an air of indifference, yet inwardly he was terribly chagrined that his uncle should make such an unlucky and unseasonable a discovery, which he was sensible would be an eternal bar to the great project he had of bettering his fortune, and had recourse to a most villanous scheme to accomplish his purpose, which immediately he put in practice, by writing an artful letter to his wife, inclosing another for her to copy, disowning her marriage, as he said he could not procure advancement in the army, his only dependance, if known he was incumbered with a wife and child. This she at first refused by letter to do; but, at his repeated request, she reluctantly complied, copied his letter, by which she disowned herself to be his wife, and subscribed it with her maiden name, Murray. No sooner had he got this acknowledge-

ment under her own hand, than he sent copies of her letter both to her relations, and his own in Scotland, which so alienated their minds, that both the one and the other withdrew their support from her, which reduced her to the utmost poverty and distress. Not satisfied with this usage of a woman, to whom he had no objection but that she was his wife, he commenced an action to prove the illegality of his marriage, as a ground for a divorce, with a view to deceive Mr. Blandy. Upon this he brought on his cause before the judges in Scotland, where he produced her letter, as evidence against her, which greatly inclined the judges to favor his cause. But when the wife came to make her defence, and produced the letter in his own hand-writing, which she had only copied at his request, and declared that nothing but a public insult upon her virtue could have induced her to detect his villany, the court gave a verdict against the captain, and confirmed their marriage. Upon which, her relations took her again into favor, as an object worthy their compassion. Not satisfied with this verdict, the captain appealed to the next sessions, and pursued Miss Blandy with as much eagerness as ever; and, not trusting to the uncertain event of his law-suit, makes

use of all his cunning to get possession of his fair mistress. To which purpose he persuaded her, with all the power of his rhetoric, to consummate their marriage privately. Miss, however, was not so blinded by love as absolutely to renounce the use of her reason to oblige him, and could not be prevailed upon to grant his request.

In the mean time, the captain's wife in Scotland, understanding what use her husband had made of her condescension, in facilitating a match he was about to make with a lady at Henley, thought it highly necessary to disabuse that lady and her friends; accordingly, she writes letters to Mr. Blandy and his daughter, to inform them she was Mr. Cranstoun's lawful wife; inclosing, at the same time, the decree of the court of Scotland, whereby their marriage was absolutely confirmed. This was sufficient to have opened Miss Blandy's eyes; but the captain returning from Scotland, he exerted all his eloquence to convince the father, mother, and daughter, that his cause was not finally determined; that he had lodged an appeal, and that the next sessions he should have a rehearing, when he did not in the least question but his pretended marriage would be absolutely annulled. But though the mother and daughter seemed

quite satisfied, yet the old gentleman was afraid there was a snake in the grass, which Cranstoun saw plain enough, and often took notice of it to Miss. But though the father did not express that cordiality for him as he did formerly, yet this was abundantly made up to him by the uncommon affection of the mother, who shewed him more than a maternal fondness.

One instance of which was, the old lady being on a visit, was seized with a violent disorder, in the height of which her constant cry was, "let Cranstoun be sent for." Cranstoun was then at Southampton with his regiment; but, on his receiving a summons from Miss, to come away directly, he obeyed, and immediately waited on the sick lady, who was so transported at the sight of him, that she immediately raised herself up in her bed, took him about the neck in a most affectionate manner; adding these words to this fond action, my dear Cranstoun, I am glad you are come, I now shall grow well soon. Nay, she carried her fondness to such an extravagant pitch, that Cranstoun only must be her nurse, and administer every thing that was prescribed for her. And, so efficacious was his care of her, that, though before he came she was judged to be in the utmost

danger, yet the very next day after his arrival, she got up, and on his coming into the room, said, this I owe to you, my dear Cranstoun; your coming has given me new health, and fresh spirits. I was fearful I should die, and you not here to comfort that poor girl; how like death she looks!

The death of the old lady shortly after took place; when the captain's affairs becoming desperate, and receiving frequent intimations that his company was no longer agreeable to Mr. Blandy, he takes his leave, in order, as he pretended, to hasten on the appeal; but, before he went, in a conference he had with Miss Blandy he complained, that her father's behaviour to him was greatly altered from what it had been; that he was not conscious that he deserved such ill treatment at his hands; that, however, he had still the same respect for him as ever, and that he was resolved, if possible, to regain his affections. For which purpose, as soon as he should get into Scotland, he would send her some powders, which he knew to be of such a friendly and conciliating nature, that if she would give them to her father, in such quantities as he should prescribe, he was very certain that, by their help, he should recover the love of his old friend; that he would put up the

powder in papers, and, to prevent suspicion, he would write upon them, "Powder to clean the Scotch pebbles." Miss promised to give her father the powders, in the manner Cranstoun should direct, not, as may be charitably imagined, in the least suspecting his villanous design, or the terrible effects they would produce. Miss was as good as her word, and gave her father the powders, first in tea, and afterwards in water-gruel; the consequence of which was, his death; and there being sufficient proof that she gave him the powders in his gruel, there were just grounds to suspect her of the murder. Upon which she was taken into custody, committed to Oxford gaol, and March 3, 1752, was brought to her trial.

The principal witness was Susan Gunnel, the maid-servant, who deposed, that on the Sunday seven-night before his death, her master being out of order, she made him some water-gruel, put it in a pan, and set it in the pantry; but on Monday the prisoner told her she had been stirring the water-gruel, and eating the oat-meal out of it, and gave her papa a half-pint mug of it that night; that the next day the prisoner gave him some more of the same gruel, which disordered him very much, and he took physic:

that on Wednesday the prisoner came into the kitchen, and said to her, (this witness) that as her master had took physic he might want some gruel, and that she might give him the same again, and not leave her work, as she was ironing, to make fresh; to which she answered, it was stale, and she would make fresh, and did so; that she had the evening before taken up the pan, and disliked the taste, and now tasted it again, and putting the pan to her mouth, observed some whiteness at the bottom, and told Betty Binfield, her fellow-servant, that she never saw oatmeal settlement so white before. Oatmeal! says Betty, I think it looks as white as flour. She then took it out of doors, where there was more light; and, putting her finger to the bottom of the pan found it gritty, which made her fear that this was poison; she therefore locked it up in a closet, and on Thursday morning carried it to Mrs. Monteney, who gave it to Mr. Norton and Dr. Addington. She further deposed, that on Wednesday morning, after she had given her master the physic, she gave Anne Emmet, the chair-woman, the water-gruel that had been before made for her master, which threw the woman into such a fit of purging and vomiting as had very near occasioned her death. Mr. Blandy

being now tortured with the most racking pains in his bowels, and every part of him, occasioned, in the opinion of the doctors who attended him, by poison, the prisoner, on the Monday following, came into the room, and falling on her knees to her father, said, Sir, banish me where you please, do with me what you please, so you do but forgive me; and as for Cranstoun, I will never see him, speak to him, or write to him more, as long as I live, if you will forgive me. To which her father made answer, I forgive thee, my dear, and I hope God will forgive thee; but thou should'st have considered better before thou attempted'st any thing against thy own father. The prisoner then said, Sir, as to your illness, I am entirely innocent. To which this witness replied, Madam, I believe you must not say you are entirely innocent, for the powder left in the water-gruel, and the paper of powder taken out of the fire, are now in such hands that they must be publicly produced; adding, that she herself had taken, about six weeks before, a dose in tea, that was prepared for her master. To which the prisoner answered, I have put no powder in tea, I have put powder in water-gruel; if you have received any injury, I am entirely innocent; it was given me for another pur-

pose. Her father, hearing this, turned himself in his bed, and said, O such a villain! come to my house, eat of the best, and drink of the best my house could afford, should take away my life, and ruin my daughter! O! my dear, thee must hate the man, and must hate the ground he goes on; thee canst not help it. To which the prisoner replied, Sir, your tenderness to me is like a sword to my heart; every word you say is like swords piercing my heart; much worse than if you were to be ever so angry.—I must down on my knees, and beg you will not curse me. To which her father answered, I curse thee, my dear! how should'st thou think I could curse thee! No, I bless thee! and hope God will bless thee, and amend thy life. Do, my dear, go out of the room; say no more, lest thou should'st say any thing to thy own prejudice. Go to thy uncle Stephens, take him for thy friend. Poor man! I am sorry for him. This witness further said, that the Saturday before, about noon, the prisoner came into the kitchen, and put some papers in the fire, and thrust them down with a stick; on her leaving the kitchen, this witness, and Betty Binfield, took a paper out of the fire, with this written upon it, "the powder to clean the pebbles." On the same day, Saturday morning, she

carried her master something to drink, and said to him, Sir, I believe you have got something in your water-gruel that I am afraid has hurt you, and I believe Miss Blandy put it in, by her coming into the wash-house and saying, that she had been stirring her papa's gruel, and eating the oatmeal out of it. Upon which he said, I find I am not right; my head is not right as it used to be, nor has it been for some time. The witness told him she had found a powder in the pan; upon which he said to her, do'st thou know any thing of this powder? didst thee ever see any of it? She said, no, none but what she saw in the water-gruel. He then asked her, if she knew or could guess where she had this powder? She replied, I can't guess any where except from Mr. Cranstoun; my reason is, because Miss Blandy has lately had letters oftener than usual. Her master then said, now you mention it, he talked of a particular poison they had in his country. O that villain, that ever he came into my house! She likewise told him she had shewn the powder to Mr. Norton, the apothecary, who had taken care of it, and thought it would be proper for him (her father) to seize her pockets, with her keys and papers; to which he said, I can't do it, I can't shock her so

much.—But canst not thee take out a letter or two, which she may think she has dropped by chance? The witness replied, no, Sir, I have no right, she is your daughter; you may do it and nobody else.

Elizabeth Binfield, another servant of Mr. Blandy's, corroborated the testimony of the first witness, and stated, that on the 10th of August she took the paper out of the fire, and delivered it to Dr. Addington and Mr. Norton; and when Susan Gunnell was ill, the prisoner asked this witness if Susan had taken any of her father's water-gruel? on her answering she knew not, the prisoner said, if she does she may do for herself; may I tell you that? That she heard the prisoner say, who would grudge to send an old father to hell for 10,000*l.*? and this she introduced by talking of girls being kept out of their fortunes: that she had often heard the prisoner curse her father, and call him rascal and villain; and on the night before her father died, Miss Blandy offered the witness 15 guineas to procure her a chaise from the Bell, or the Lion, and 10 guineas more when they got to London; but on her refusing to comply with this request, the prisoner burst into a laugh, and said she was only joking.

Mr. Littleton, Mr. Blandy's clerk, deposed, that

on Sunday, the 14th of August, the prisoner put a letter into his hand, and bid him direct it as usual (as he had often done before) which he understood to be to Mr. Cranstoun, to seal it, and put it into the post ; but having reason to suspect some foul play was going forwards, he opened the letter, transcribed it, carried it to Mr. Norton, and read it to his master, who only said, poor love-sick girl ! what will not a girl do for a man she loves ? This letter was wrote in these terms :—

" Dear Willy,

My father is so bad that I have only time to tell you, that if you do not hear from me soon again, don't be frightened. I am better myself. Lest any accident should happen to your letters, take care what you write. My sincere compliments. I am ever yours."

He further said, that he had often heard her curse her father, damn him for an old rogue, and a toothless old dog, within two months of his decease, and a great while before.

The doctors, Addington and Lewis, who attended him in his illness, declared it as their joint opinion,

that he died by poison; that they made experiments on the powder found in his gruel, and had proved it to be white arsenic. Many other witnesses were called, who corroborated the evidence before given. Being called on for her defence,—

Miss Blandy complained much of the hardships she had undergone, both before and after her commitment to prison. That as to the crime with which she was charged, of poisoning her father, she said, she really thought the powder was an innocent, inoffensive thing, and gave it him to procure his love; that is, as she explained it, his love towards Mr. Cranstoun.

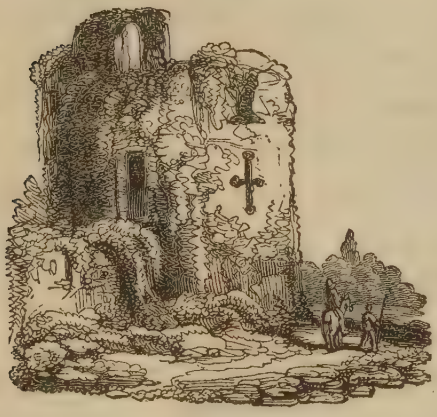
The judge having summed up the evidence, the jury, without going from the bar, brought her in guilty of the indictment—DEATH.

The day before her execution she received the sacrament, and signed a paper, in which she declared, that she did not know, or believe, that the powder, to which the death of her father had been ascribed, had any noxious or poisonous quality lodged in it; and that she had no intention to hurt, and much less to destroy him, by giving him that powder.—The night before her execution, she spent the greatest part of it in prayer; and the next morning was conducted to the

fatal tree. Her countenance was solemn, and her deportment suitable to the sad occasion. At the gallows, she declared herself guilty of administering the powder to her father, but without knowing it had the least poisonous quality in it, or intended to do him any injury, as she hoped to meet with mercy at the great tribunal before which she should very shortly appear. And as it had been reported she had been instrumental in the death of her mother in the like manner as her father, and also of Mrs. Pocock,—she declared herself not even the innocent cause of either of their deaths (if she was the innocent cause of that of her father) as she hoped for salvation in a future state. Having mounted the ladder, and a halter being put round her neck, she pulled her handkerchief over her face, without shedding a tear all the time. In this position she prayed a little while on the ladder; and then gave the signal, by holding out a little book she had in her hands. Her body, after it had hung a due time, was cut down, put in a hearse, and conveyed to Henley; and, about one o'clock the next morning, was interred between her father and mother.

When Cranstoun learnt Miss Blandy was suspected, and committed to Oxford gaol, he secreted himself in such a way as to elude the messengers

who were sent to apprehend him; and, after nearly six months' concealment, he escaped to France, where, after a severe fit of illness, he turned Roman Catholic, and died at Furnes, a town in Flanders, where a solemn mass was sung at his funeral. By his will he left seventy-five pounds per annum, the interest of his paternal fortune, to his wife, to support herself and daughter, whom he had endeavoured to bastardize.



## Thomas Blee.

Tom Blee, a fellow of the lowest description, and of the vilest and depraved manners, was in person every way corresponding with his disposition and calling; of a squalid complexion, meagre countenance, thin carroty beard, and hump-backed; generally known among his acquaintance and confederates by the appellation of my lord; mostly without a shoe or stocking to his feet, and solely depending for support and maintenance to the bounty and patronage of thief-takers, on whom he was an humble dependant, and servile follower. The employment of this worthy was, to perambulate the fields and places adjacent to London, in search of young men and lads out of employment, and force his conversation and company on them, to accomplish what he lived by—their destruction! if he found them thieves ready to his hands, his ends was half accomplished; if not, it was his particular business to make them so; but if neither of these were to be effected, contrive to lead them to suspicious places,

THOMAS BLEE.

(Thief Taker.)

where some of his confederate friends and thief-takers would contrive and manufacture a robbery never committed, but solely invented for the sake of the reward. The victims, having neither money or friends, were easily managed, and swearing was not wanted, if necessary, to prove *black was white.* This trade proved profitable and prosperous for some time, but the affair of Kelly and Ellis was so clumsily managed by the gang, that their Jack-all, Tom Blee, became entangled with the prey, and, to save himself, turned (what among the thieveing gentry is called) snitch against his masters. Being taken into custody as an accomplice in the robbery of Salmon, he was conveyed before Colonel Bell, a justice at Greenwich, before whom he made a full confession; and, in consequence, was admitted an evidence. On the trial of Macdaniel, Berry, Egan, and Salmon, he deposed as follows:—

"I lodged at Berry's house; he said to me in the beginning of July, go to Macdaniel, who then lived in a court in Holborn, and tell him I want to speak with him. I went, and we came back together to Berry's house; they both said, Tom, money grows scarce, you must give a sharp look-out for

a couple to go upon the scamp now, and if you cannot get two, you must get one. To go upon the scamp, is to go on the highway. I told them, as Kidden's was so bad an affair, I did not choose to be concerned any more; Macdaniel said, d——n your eyes, if you don't it shall be the worse for you. Then Berry said, I might go about my business; so I went away. The next morning Berry called me into his room; he lived in George-yard, the upper end of Hatton-garden; he then said, go to Mr. Macdaniel, and desire him to meet me in the fields, about eleven o'clock; I did, and we went into the Spa-fields, and Berry came to us; they both said to me, go and look about the fields, and see if you can pick up a couple of idle fellows, that will do for the purpose, that is, to go upon the scamp. Accordingly, we three went into the fields several days, but could not meet with any body fit for the purpose. I remember one day in particular; it was Monday, the 15th of July; that day they ordered me to go into the fields, and said they would come, and I sat there two hours before they came; then Macdaniel came to the top of the hill, and bid me come to the sign of Sir John Oldcastle, and said my master was there; I went with him, and in

an arbour at the bottom of the yard sat Berry, and Salmon the breeches-maker; there we discoursed together about doing this robbery; Macdaniel said, we'll do the thing somewhere towards Blackheath; then he and Berry had a sort of wrangle, whether they should not have it done between New-cross turnpike and Deptford, just facing the four-mile stone: they pitched on this place, because there is a reward of twenty pounds given by the inhabitants of East Greenwich, for apprehending highwaymen and footpads; Berry said, suppose we have Egan concerned with us; then they talked about his being the *fence*, as they call it; that is, to buy the goods after Salmon had been robbed of them; Macdaniel objected to Egan's being in, because he thought five would be too many to be concerned in the reward. Berry said, we can't cleverly do without him; and if there were five of us concerned it would be pretty near twenty pounds each, if a constable should come in. So they all agreed that Egan should be concerned as a fence in the robbery, and Berry said, he would acquaint him with it that night; and said to me, now Tom, you may go home about your business; we will not be seen in the streets together.

Next morning I went out again to see if I could find any body for the purpose, but I could not that day; the next after, Berry ordered me to go and tell Macdaniel to come to him at the Bell Inn, in Holborn; Macdaniel and I went there accordingly, where we met Egan, Salmon, and Berry, when it was concluded that the thing should be done, i. e. that I should get a couple to go on the highway, and that Salmon should be the person to be robbed; and Berry and Salmon talked about making two pair of breeches that Salmon was to be robbed of, and to mark them under the pocket or waistband with some particular mark; I think it was to be J. S.; then Berry and Macdaniel said, they must have a particular handkerchief; Salmon said he had got a handkerchief at home that he would mark so as to swear to it; that is, with four oilet-holes, one at each corner. Berry said, they should want a tobacco-box; Macdaniel said, he had got a very remarkable one, and I know it to be the same now *(taking it in his hand.)* Macdaniel said, he would give it to Salmon to be robbed of; then they wanted a halfpenny, and would have it marked. Macdaniel said, he had a pocket-piece, which I saw his wife buy for threepence and a halfpenny-worth of gin, some time before: he said,

that would do, and it should be marked with a shoemaker's tool, and gave it him to mark; Egan said, he had a tool he used to stamp shoes with, and would mark the piece with it; then they bid me go home about my business. Next morning, Berry gave me threepence, and ordered me to go down to Fleet-Market to see if I could pick up two men or lads there. Accordingly I went, and met with Peter Kelly and John Ellis, very bad lads, that is, pickpockets. I gave them a dram of gin, but had no discourse with them then about the thing. Next morning Berry gave me threepence more, and bid me go down to Fleet-Market, and be sure to have a little talk with them, and told me what to say, and that was, to tell them I knew where to get a brave parcel of lullies, that is of linen, if they would go with me to Deptford; I went, and met them there, and told them as I was ordered; they both agreed to go with me any time I thought proper. Ellis is a chimney-sweeper, about twenty years of age, and the other about twenty-one. Next morning, Berry sent me to Macdaniel, to bid him come to the Plum-tree, in Plum-tree-court, Shoe-lane; there we met Berry and Salmon; Berry told Salmon I had got two men, Ellis and Kelly, who had agreed to go with me any where.

Berry bid me drink once, and go about my business. The reason why they chose I should go by myself was, because people should not take notice of me. This was said when they gave me this great-coat that I now have on, to disguise myself. I had then been to Kelly and Ellis at Fleet-Market, where I saw them on a pea-cart; I gave each of them a glass of gin, and bid them good-bye. About two hours after that, I met them again in the market, and asked them if they would go to Deptford or not? they said, yes; Kelly asked me if I had any bag to put the linen in? I said, we did not want a bag, I would tell them more of that another time, and so left them. At night Berry bid me come to him in the morning; I did so, and he gave me sixpence to treat them with. I went into the brick-fields, and found them, and treated them with gin and beer; agreed to go to Deptford and steal linen, and promised to meet them the next morning; I left them in the Spa-fields, and went to Macdaniel's house and dined there. I told him I had got two lads that I believed would do for the thing, and who they were, and said I should see them again to-night or to-morrow; he said, that was very well. At night I saw Berry, and told him what had passed between the lads and me;

he said it was very well. Next morning, July 22d, about five o'clock, Berry bid me go and tell Macdaniel not to be out of the way, and gave me threepence to go down and treat Ellis and Kelly with gin. I went down, and there met with them, gave each of them a halfpenny worth, and told them I would fix a day when to go to Deptford; so left them and went to Macdaniel's, where were Berry and Egan. I said, if Egan has a mind to see them, he and I would go down to Fleet-market. We went, and there the two lads were sitting on a pea-cart; I gave them each a halfpenny for gin; Egan stood three or four yards from them, leaning against a post; then he went one way and I another, and met at Macdaniel's house. Egan said to Macdaniel and Berry, by G—— they will do very well, they are two pretty lads; then we parted, and Berry and I went over to the Plumb-tree. As we went by Salmon's door, in Shoe-lane, Berry beckoned to him, and he went with us; I left them together. On Tuesday morning, Berry and I went to the Plumb-tree again; he sent me to tell Macdaniel that he wanted to speak with him; I told him, and he came; then I went to find the two lads; found them in Fleet-market, and discoursed

with them; they said they were going to work in the Artillery-ground, that is, to pick-pockets; I came back, and acquainted Berry and Macdaniel with it. Berry gave me three-pence, and bid me go and keep them company; I went, and walked up and down with them. About half an hour after two o'clock, Berry and Macdaniel came into the Artillery-ground: I went to Berry, and asked him if he thought they would do? he said, do, d——n me, I have done less than they over, for March and Newman were less; he gave me sixpence, and bid me be sure not to leave them. I went round the Artillery-ground, and met with Macdaniel, and asked him if he thought the two lads would do? he said, d——n your eyes, I have done less than they over at Kingston; then I left him, and went and gave the lads part of a full pot of beer; then I bid them good-bye, and told them I would see them again the next morning. I went home, and in the morning told Berry I was going to them; he gave me three-pence, and I went to Fleet-market, and told them I believed the thing would be done on Friday next; if not, I would let them know farther; then left them, and told Berry I had seen them; he said, d——n you, don't you go to deceive us; do you come to the Bell, in Holborn,

bye-and-bye, and tell Macdaniel I want him; I did so, and left word as he had ordered me; then I went to the Bell, and Berry met me at the door; he said, here is threepence, go away to the Artillery-ground, and be there about two o'clock; this was on Thursday, the 25th, in the morning; he said, don't come in, for Mr. Bagley is here; I don't want him to see you; Bagley was a neighbour of Berry's. I went to the Artillery-ground, and walked about an hour and a half before I saw either Berry or Macdaniel; presently there was a hue and cry after a pick-pocket; Macdaniel came to me and said, d——n me, the chief person is ducking in the Pyed-horse-yard; follow him and give him some gin, for they have almost killed him; it was Ellis, the chimney-sweeper. I followed him across Moorfields, and saw the people go from him till there was but two or three about him; I gave him a penny, and went back to Macdaniel, and told him he were very safe; and as we were coming out of the ground, we met one they call Plump, (his name is Brebeck,) and another fellow they call Doctor, that was turnkey at Clerkenwell Bridewell; Plump, seeing me and Macdaniel together, said, d——n you, you rascal, you

deserve to be hanged for that affair of Kidden.* Macdaniel said to me, come along, don't be afraid of any body. I went to Fleet-market, to see Ellis was safe; I found them both, and told them I would meet them next morning; they had no money to pay for a lodging; I said, here is three half-pence for you, go and lie in the brick-fields to-night; then I went home to Berry's; I told him of Ellis's being ducked; he said, they agreed that it should not be done on the Friday, lest the lads should be apprehended on the Saturday, and kept all night in the watch-house, and they might tell somebody of my being concerned with them, and so, by impeaching me, I might be apprehended; and therefore fixed it to be on the Monday, on which morning Berry gave me twopence or threepence to go to Fleet-market to meet them, and bid them stay till nine o'clock, and say I would come again, which I did, and returned to the Plumb-tree, where Berry, Salmon, and Macdaniel were. Berry changed a guinea, and gave

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* Joshua Kidden, a young man, was convicted and executed, for an offence fabricated by Blee, and the gang of thief-takers.

me five shillings, and bid me flash to the boys, and to say, I made that last night; I was to pull it out all at once; he gave Salmon half-a-crown to be robbed of; he said, now go away as fast as you can; I asked him at what place shall I stop for you, to see you are going, that we may both be sure? I said, I will stop at the Bell, in the Borough, and call for a glass of gin; then you may be sure we are going to Deptford. I left them, and went to the two boys, and went with them to a house in Little Britain; there I called for some beer and bread and cheese, pulled off my coat, and said I must go to the fence to get some money, for the woman had not paid me all; I left my great-coat, and went to Berry, and bid him hasten away, for the boys wanted to go; Berry said he should be over the water time enough for us; I went to the boys again, and called for another pot of beer to delay the time; we then set out for Deptford; when we came to the Bell, in the Borough, we went in, and there sat Berry and Salmon. After we came out, Kelly said, d——n your eyes, there is that old thief-catching son of a bitch, your old master; said I, never mind it, I don't belong to him now; then we went down the Borough-market; they bought a breast of lamb for their dinner, and we went to the

Black Spread-eagle, in Kent-street, (which was the house the prisoners and I had appointed for them to come the next day.) We had the lamb fried for our dinners; from thence we set out for Deptford, at about half-an-hour after twelve o'clock; I had made them almost drunk, but as we could do nothing till it was dark, we would go into the fields and get a sleep; they slept soundly. At a proper time I awaked them, and away we went to Deptford. About an hour before dark, I went with them to the Ship, the house Berry and Salmon had appointed to come to; I called for a pint of beer at the door, and bid them stay there, while I stepped to see a relation in the town, but went to see for Berry and Salmon; I found Berry; we went to a public-house, he called for a pint of beer, and bid me return to the boys, and Salmon should come to the house; I went to them, and took them into the house, and said, I expect my cousin to come to me. I saw Berry go by the window; he beckoned, and I went out to him; he said, be sure to follow Salmon when he comes out; I went in again, and Salmon presently went out; I changed half-a-crown, and asked the lads if they would have any gin. When Salmon first came in, Kelly said, there is that old blood of a

bitch the breeches-maker; his son and I have been picking pockets together many a time; I said, never mind that, what is that to us. I knew the place where he was to stop at; it was just by the four mile-stone; this was agreed upon before. The two boys and I went on, and by the four mile-stone, by a gate, Salmon stood, as if he was making water; d——n me, says Kelly, there is the old breeches-maker; he is sucky, lets *scamp* him. When Kelly came up to Salmon, he said, d——n you, what have you got there? Salmon said, gentlemen, take what I have got, don't use me ill; he had the breeches under his arm, tied in a blue and white handkerchief; he gave them to me, and I to Kelly; I said to Kelly, what money has he got? Salmon said, there gentlemen, what money I have got is in my left-hand waistcoat-pocket, in a tobacco-box, and a clasp-knife and fork. Then away we walked on for London, and came into Kent-street as fast as we could, and lodged there all night, at a house where I paid the lodging-money at going down, by Berry's order, to induce the lads to come there again."

Blee gave his evidence in a clear and correct manner, nor could he be drawn to any contradiction by the

most ingenious cross-examination on both trials. But it was not virtue, but fear, that induced him at last to appear honest and candid, and he was ever after shunned and avoided by every decent member of society. It does not appear the gallows caught him at last; but his two unfortunate victims, whom he showed about and handled as a butcher would a sheep, had their sentence commuted to seven years' transportation. However, his testimony led to the conviction of the principal offenders, who met with too slight a punishment, in comparison to the heinousness of their offences.

# EDWARD BRIGHT,

(Of Malden in Essex.)

# Edward Bright,

## THE FAT MAN OF MALDEN, IN ESSEX.

Mr. Bright was descended from families greatly inclined to corpulency, both on his father's and his mother's side. Many of his ancestors and relations were remarkably fat, though far inferior to him in bulk. He was always fat from a child, and yet very strong and active, and used a great deal of exercise, both when a boy, and after he became a man, which he continued to do till within the last two or three years of his life, when he became too unwieldy. He could walk very well, and nimbly too, having great strength of muscles; and could not only ride on horseback, but would sometimes gallop, after he was grown to between thirty and forty stones weight. He used to go to London about his business, which was that of a grocer, till the journey of forty miles, and going about there, became too great a fatigue to him; and he left it off for some years before he died. But he was grown to such a size before he

left it off, that he was the gazing stock and admiration of all people, as he walked along the streets. In the last year or two he could walk but a little way, being soon tired, and out of breath; and travelled about but little, and that in a chaise.

He was so large and fat a boy, that, at the age of twelve years and a half, he weighed ten stones and four pounds, horseman's weight, i.e. one hundred and forty-four pounds. And he increased in bulk as he grew up, so that in seven years more, that is, before he was twenty, he weighed twenty-four stones, or three hundred and thirty-six pounds. He went on increasing, and probably in pretty near the same proportion; for, the last time he was weighed, which was about thirteen months before he died, his weight was forty-two stones and twelve pounds, with only his waistcoat, shirt, breeches, and stockings on, and these clothes, being afterwards weighed, were found to be sixteen pounds; so that his nett weight at that time was forty-one stones and ten pounds, or five hundred and eighty-four pounds. What his exact weight was at the time of his death, cannot be told; but, as he was manifestly grown bigger since the last weighing, which he himself, and every body about him, were sensible of, if we may take the same

proportion by which he had increased for many years upon an average, viz. of about two stones a year, and only allow four pounds addition for the last year, on account of his moving about but very little, while he continued to eat and drink as before (which allowance is, perhaps, less than might be granted) this will bring him to forty-four stones, or six hundred and sixteen pounds nett weight, which, by the judgment of the most reasonable people, who knew him well, and saw him often, is reckoned a very fair computation, and the lowest that could be made.

He was five feet nine inches and a half high; his body round the chest, just under the arms, measured five yards six inches; and round the belly, six yards eleven inches. His arm, in the middle of it, was two feet two inches about; and his leg two feet eight inches.

He had always a good appetite, and, when a youth, used to eat somewhat remarkably; but of late years, though he continued to eat heartily, and with a good relish, yet he did not eat more in quantity than many other men, who we say have good stomachs.—As to his drink, though he did not take any liquor to an intoxicating degree, yet perhaps,

upon the whole, he drank more than might have been adviseable to a man of his very corpulent habit. When he was a very young man, he was fond of ale and old strong beer; but, for some years, his chief liquor was small beer, of which he commonly drank about a gallon in a day. In other liquors he was extremely moderate, when by himself, sometimes drinking half a pint of wine after dinner, or a little punch, and seldom exceeding this quantity; but when he was in company, he did not confine himself to so small an allowance.

He enjoyed, for the most part of his life, as good health as any man, except that in the last three years he was two or three times seized with an inflammation in his leg, attended with a little fever; and every time with such a tendency to mortification, as to make it necessary to scarify the part. But, by the help of scarification and fomentations, bleeding largely once or twice in the arm, and purging, he was soon relieved. Whenever he was bled, it was always the custom with him to have not less than two pounds of blood taken away at a time, and he was no more sensible of the loss of such a quantity, than another man is of twelve or fourteen ounces.

He married when he was between twenty-two

and twenty-three years old, and lived a little more than seven years in that state; in which time he had five children born, and left his wife with child of the sixth, near her time.

There was an amiable mind in this extraordinary overgrown body. He was of a cheerful temper, and a good-natured man; a kind husband, a tender father, a good master, a friendly neighbour, and a very fair honest man; and was beloved and respected by all who knew him; and would have been as much lamented by his acquaintance as any man in any station of life ever was, had it not been that they looked upon him, for several years, as a man who could not live long; and out of regard and compassion to him, considered his as a burthen, and death as a happy release to him, and so much the more, as he thought so himself, and wished to be released.

His last illness, which continued about fourteen days, was a miliary fever. It began with pretty strong inflammatory symptoms, a very troublesome cough, difficulty of breathing, &c. and the eruption was extremely violent. For some days he was thought to be relieved in the other symptoms by the eruption; but, it seems to be no wonder at all that his constitution was not able to struggle through such a

disease, which proves fatal to many, who appear to be much more calculated to grapple with it. He died Nov. 10, 1750, in the thirtieth year of his age.

His body began to putrify very soon after he was dead; and, notwithstanding the weather was cool, it became very offensive the next day, before they could get a coffin made, which was three feet six inches broad at the shoulders, two feet three inches and a half at the head, twenty-two inches at the feet, and three feet one inch and a half deep.

Great numbers of people came to see the coffin while it was making; and at the funeral there was a vast concourse, not only of the town, but from the country for several miles round about, out of curiosity to see how such a corpse could be got to the ground. It was drawn to the church on a low-wheeled carriage, by ten or twelve men, and was let down into the grave by an engine fixed up in the church for that purpose.

THOMAS BROWN,

(A Valiant Soldier at Dettingen.)

# Thomas Brown.

THERE is scarcely a campaign takes place, but we hear of some extraordinary feat or other of individual valour and personal bravery ; but very rarely learn the party's having been rewarded in a manner commensurate with their deserts. Thomas Brown is a memorable instance how far enthusiasm, aided by genuine intrepidity, can carry a person, determined to achieve a particular point in view.—This man was born at Kirkleatham, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, and served as a private in Brigadier Bland's regiment of dragoons. This regiment being ordered on foreign service, Brown took his departure with the rest for Germany, and at the battle of Dettingen, so honorable to the allies, Thomas Brown signalized himself in a manner so extraordinary as to merit the applause and approbation, not only of his own comrades and officers, but likewise the most unqualified praise of the whole army, both of the allies as well as the

British soldiery.—In the early part of the battle, he had two horses killed under him ; and two fingers of his bridle-hand chopped off. Soon after meeting with these accidents, he observed the British standard taken by a French gen d'arms, whom (being remounted) he pursued, and succeeded in regaining the standard ; but not before he had killed the Frenchman that was bearing it away, who, at the time, was surrounded by troops of his own party. Brown's achievement still wanted security, and to this end he was necessitated to make his way through a lane of the enemy, exposed to the fire and sword of those who had witnessed the destruction of their own gen d'arms. And, notwithstanding the most vigorous resistance of the enemy to stay him in his progress, he succeeded in bearing away his prize, at the expense of eight cuts in the face, head, and neck, and two musket-balls lodged in his back : independent of these severe hurts, he had three balls pass through his hat while in the endeavour to regain his own regiment ; which he effected, notwithstanding his maimed condition, and was hailed, on his safe arrival with the standard, by three distinct huzzas from the whole of his troop, and the rest of the army, who were spectators of

the gallant exploit. Such an enterprize under Napoleon Buonaparte would infallibly have recommended the adventurer to at least a general's, if not a field-marshal's staff; but poor Brown, possessing but plebeian blood, and subordinate rank, was considered amply rewarded by the liberal pension of a shilling per day, to pass the remnant of his life in luxurious ease and enjoyment.

Thomas Brown was but twenty-eight years of age when he performed this memorable action, and the circumstance is handed down to posterity solely by two portraits, one drawn by Boitard, from the life, representing the hero with his face mutilated in almost every direction, with two vignettes, the one exhibiting Brown in the act of retaking the colours, and killing the gen d'arms; and the other bearing away his prize, over the bodies of his slaughtered foes, and assailed on all sides with instruments of destruction, by those who unsuccessfully attempted to intercept and obstruct him in his course;—the other print represents him on horseback, and is engraved by George Bickham.

How many commanders, who never signalized themselves in half the way this man has done, have

had their memories perpetuated by sumptuous monuments, erected at the national expence; while this poor fellow was not permitted, (but debarred, from the vulgar opinion of his station in life) to bear the colours he had so nobly rescued from the hands of the common enemy.

MISS JENNY CAMERON,

(the Young Pretender's Diana.)

# Miss Jenny Cameron.

THIS celebrated female adventurer was the eldest daughter of Mr. Hugh Cameron, of Glendessery, in Scotland, who was the chief branch of this family. The estate of Glendessery is but small, and does not exceed 150*l.* per annum. Yet the tenants and dependents on it are so numerous, that, upon a summons, they can muster almost as many men as their chief *Lochiel*. Miss Cameron's father was a gentleman of an universal good character, fine sense, probity of manners, and an excellent œconomist; he kept within the bounds of his income, yet lived very handsomely upon it; however, he did not make it his whole dependence, but dealt very largely in cattle, an occupation many Scotch gentlemen take to, possessing but small estates, which enables them to live genteelly. Mr. Cameron had a large family, and took particular care to give all his children a liberal education. Miss Jenny, being the eldest, and her parent's darling, no cost was spared in giving her those accomplishments befitting her sex,

that might render her fit for any gentleman in the country.—But, by the time she had attained to the age of thirteen, she exhibited so many symptoms of a wanton and romping disposition, that, to prevent her utter ruin, her parents put her under the care of her father's aunt, an elderly widow lady, residing at Glasgow, and caused a footman in the family, who had nearly effected his purpose of debauching her, to be trepanned, and sent on board a ship employed in the Virginia trade; in which he was conveyed to the plantations, and sold as a slave. In about a year and a half after, this fellow made shift to escape from his master, and, after many vicissitudes, in three years from his leaving Scotland, he returned; and, by a singular circumstance, engaged as livery-servant with the lady who had Miss Jenny under her care. Here the connection was renewed between them, and the consequence was, the pregnancy of Miss Cameron, when she was scarcely sixteen. On the discovery of this intrigue, the servant absconded, and Miss Cameron got, in part, over the shame, by a premature delivery of her burden.

After this unhappy affair was over, Miss, for a considerable time, was very serious and sedate; and so much modesty and prudence appeared in her whole be-

haviour, that her aunt began now to have a real value and esteem for her, and really believed she was so sincere a penitent, that no considerations whatever could induce her to alter her present virtuous disposition.

The miscarriage of Miss Cameron fell out in the year 1715; a year memorable for the rebellion which the papists and jacobites raised in favor of the first Pretender. At this period Jenny had no friend on earth but the relation she resided with; her father having been so overwhelmed with grief and horror, at the shameful and scandalous act of his darling daughter, that it threw him into a fever, of which he died in less than a fortnight, after learning the fatal particulars. Her mother felt herself so indignant on this second calamity taking place, that she addressed the following passionate letter to her aunt:—

"Madam,

Tell Jenny Cameron (no more my daughter, unhappy for me that she ever was!) that since she has preferred the indulgence of an unlawful appetite to the peace and honor of her family, that family will no longer have any regard for

her, but do cut her off as a man would a troublesome and unsightly wen in his flesh; she has brought the best of fathers, as well as the best of husbands, with sorrow to the grave; and I am only left to curse the remembrance, that I nursed up a serpent in my bosom which stung me to the heart. The last favor I request of her is, that she will never pretend any relation to me, for I shall never own that she has any of my blood in her veins. Turn her out of your doors, or she will bring some terrible calamity upon you; renounce and disclaim her, as I shall for ever, and never desire to see or hear of her more. I have no more to add, but that I am, with dutiful respect, your affectionate, though sorrowful kinswoman,

JANE CAMERON."

The good old lady paid no farther attention to this epistle than to redouble her kindness towards her, at this time, disconsolate relation and guest. She had two of her sons officers in the French service, one of whom, together with a Captain Douglas, accompanied the Pretender in his expedition to Scotland; when Captain Cameron, taking this opportunity of visiting his mother, introduced to her and

Miss Cameron his friend Captain Douglas ; with whom the young lady became so much enamoured, that, after a few visits, she consented to elope in his company. This intrigue lasted as long as the Captain's means could possibly support it ; but the lady proving pregnant, and the Captain's affairs requiring his return to France, to join the army he belonged to in that country, on the ill-success of the Pretender in Scotland, Miss Cameron was under the necessity of taking up her abode in the house of a little Scotch farmer until after her *accouchement*, when it was agreed she should join her paramour in France. Leaving her what money he had left, which was about twenty guineas, and a direction to a friend to supply her with more, as her occasions might require, he took his leave and embarked for France.

The time of her delivery drawing near, Jenny set about making the necessary preparations for it, in which her landlady was very ready to assist ; and took all imaginable care of her when that critical hour came. She was delivered of a son, who lived about a week, and then died ; an event which once more set Miss Cameron at liberty from all incumbrances.

Jenny had formed a conjecture that she should never see or hear from Captain Douglas more, in which she was perfectly correct. For being once landed in France, he was so enchanted with the gallantries of that gay people, that his *Scots* mistress was wholly banished from his thoughts.—Jenny in the mean time had got pretty well over her lying-in, had recovered her pristine gaiety and briskness, her beauty returned with improvement, and her natural vivacity added a certain agreeableness to her whole person. She took great delight in riding, and having always a horse at command, continued for five or six months taking her pleasure abroad, often joining the neighbouring gentlemen and young farmers in the chace, accompanied by Mr. *Forbes, of Culloden*, who kept a pack of dogs. In one of these hunting excursions, it was Jenny's chance to lose her company, in a thick wood, where they had followed the fox. While she was musing with herself which path to pursue, suddenly there appeared before her a man on horseback, genteelly dressed in a Highland habit, with a case of pistols before him and a broad-sword by his side. As soon as he came up to her; Fair lady, said he, well met; pray, whither are you going this way? Really, Sir, said

she, to tell you the truth, I have been hunting; but, missing my company, have got into this wood, and shall be extremely obliged to you if you will be so good as to direct me how to regain the path I have lost. The person she thus addressed was one *Robert Bruce*, a fellow who had signalized himself by every species of roguery and thieving, and was at this time the chief of a *Highland banditti*, who had elected him their king! This *mock monarch* conducted Jenny through numerous windings and turnings in the wood, till she perceived she was going up a hill covered over with trees. When they had rode about half a mile upon the ascent, they came to the mouth of a large cave, at the entrance of which stood two centinels, with their firelocks grounded, and bayonets fixed. As soon as they saw the gentleman and lady, which was not till they were within about twenty yards of them, Jenny heard them give the word within, *His Majesty!* upon which immediately issued forth about twenty or thirty men, completely armed after the *Highland* fashion, who ranged themselves in two ranks, between which they passed up to the mouth of the cave, where two or three young fellows, in handsome liveries, waited to take his majesty's horse, which

they did with a great deal of ceremony. When that was done, he himself took the lady from her horse, and very complaisantly handed her into the cave.—This cave was a very capacious place, and large enough to receive and lodge a thousand men with ease. It was divided into a great number of apartments, as well natural as artificial; some of them were used for bed-rooms, others for dining-rooms, halls, parlours, kitchens, &c. and in the middle of it was a fine spring of water; chimnies were bored through the rocks for the conveyance of the smoke; in short, it had all the conveniences of a large house, except windows; the want of which was supplied by a vast number of lamps, continually burning.

This place was the general rendezvous and receptacle of a *band of Highland robbers*, who were constantly making incursions upon their *Lowland* neighbours, stealing their cattle, plundering their houses, robbing travellers on the road; and, upon any insurrection or commotion, raised in behalf of the Pretender, joined that party; and it was incredible to imagine what a vast body they could raise at the shortest warning.—Into this society did *King Robert* introduce Miss Cameron, who, with great politeness, he led into his subterraneous palace,

through the midst of his guards, whose fierce and grim visages made them look like so many fiends. Having led her through several apartments which were just visible by the glimmerings of the lamps, they came at last to a large folding-door, which being opened at their approach, discovered a spacious hall, or room of state, illuminated with branches of wax-lights. At the upper end was a throne, or chair of state, covered with velvet, with gold fringe, and bedecked with stones glittering like gems. At a table near the throne sat a company of antient *Highlanders*, and at another table were seen a set of men, who, by their dress and appearance, seemed to be gentlemen of some fashion. At *King Robert's* entrance into the room, they all rose up, and made their obeisance. He went forward, without seeming to take any notice of the homage that was paid him, and having seated the lady in a chair at the right hand of the throne, sat down himself in great state; and, addressing the assembly by the titles of "his most noble peers, grave counsellors, and ministers of his government," informed them, that the lady he now introduced he intended to make his queen; and claimed their approbation of his choice. King Robert had no sooner

uttered his last words, but the whole assembly arose and cried out, *Long live our queen! Long live the queen of the Highland Rovers!* The king thanked them for their loyalty and affection, and told them that he would very speedily acquaint them with the day he should appoint for the coronation of his queen; and then withdrew with Miss Jenny to an adjoining room, and had the success to obtain her consent to their immediate union, by the usual ceremonies among the Highland clans.

The coronation of Queen Jane took place the day week of her nuptials, which was performed by the oldest *Highlander* of the council, being dressed in a long white surplice, a square black bonnet on his head, with a broad band over a huge beard, advancing towards her with the crown in his hand, which placing on her head, he pronounced these words, *Long live* JANE, *Queen of the Highland Rovers!* which was repeated with loud huzzas by all the assembly present. The crown, it must be noted, was nothing but a coronet of tin, ornamented with the finest flowers the country could produce, but had the same efficacy there as if it had been made of gold, and bedecked with jewels.

Now Jenny was in her kingdom homaged and

adored by every body; took her pleasure when and in what manner she thought best; rode out when she pleased, and had her servants to wait on her at home and abroad. Often did she take a ride with King *Robert*, to visit the chiefs in the *Highlands*, by which means she soon became acquainted with the principal of them that were in the *Stuart* interest, was admitted to all their councils, and knew the strength and principles of every man of note among them. Her bold and active spirit was much taken notice of, and she never failed to discover it upon every occasion that offered. The *Frasers*, the *Camerons*, the *Macdonalds*, in short, all the disaffected clans, were soon acquainted with her merits. She endeavoured, by all means possible, to keep up the spirit of disaffection among them, bid them not be dejected for their late misfortunes, but keep their courage alive till time should give them an opportunity to exert it, which she did not doubt but she should live to see; that she was well assured, that their friends in France had not given over their enterprize, as soon as they could bring their measures to bear; and, whenever that should happen, she herself would appear at their head, and lead them on to battle. Thus she made a considerable figure in the

*Highlands;* and, whenever her husband sent out a party upon an expedition into the *Lowlands*, she was always at the head of it; and, on their meeting with opposition, she never failed to spirit them on; wherever there was the greatest danger, you might be sure to see her there, encouraging her men, and watching advantages to distress or beat off the enemy, so that she generally returned victorious. Jenny, on these occasions, was dressed like a *Highland* officer, that she might be at more liberty to use her arms, and generally performed wonders. But, in one of these excursions, against the *Lowlanders*, in which King Robert had killed several men with his own hand, he at length chanced to meet with one that was his match. They fought like two enraged lions, and dealt their blows so furiously, that their targets were hacked to pieces; at last the *Lowlander* aiming a terrible stroke at king *Robert's* head, the edge of the sword fell on his neck, and sunk so deep, that he dropped senseless upon the ground. *Jenny*, who was near enough to see the combat, when she saw her husband fall, rushed in upon the *Lowlander*, with her pistol cocked, and shot him through the head. The *Highlanders*, seeing their champion slain, were so much dispirited that they began to give way;

but Jenny rallied them again, and animated them, both by her words and example, to revenge the death of their king. The fight was obstinate and bloody, and continued so for near two hours; but the *Lowlanders* receiving fresh supplies from all quarters, they fought it out desperately; and, at last, obliged their enemies to retreat in earnest, which they did in so good order, under the conduct of their female general, that they brought off the body of their dead king, and the slain and wounded men, and so were forced to go home again, that time, without their errand.

Jenny, once more at liberty by the death of her husband, judged it prudent to quit the society she had resided with upwards of a twelvemonth, although strongly urged to take upon herself their government, as queen and leader. But, persisting in the refusal of the proffered honor, they suffered her to depart, after presenting her with a purse of two hundred guineas, the rings, jewels, and plate of every kind that were the property of the late King Robert, the whole in value five hundred pounds. Accordingly, the next morning, being dressed in the same riding-habit she wore when King *Robert* met her in the wood, mounting her horse, took her leave of the

rough gentry, and set out, accompanied by a servant who knew the country, who, in about three hours' ride, brought her safe to the house of Farmer Sawney, where he left Jenny and the two horses, and returned back on foot.

Jenny, having staid a few days with the farmer, and settled her affairs with him to her mind, took her horse, and went a progress into the *Highlands*, and visited such chiefs as she had before contracted an acquaintance with; and her engaging behaviour, and agreeable conversation, rendered her acceptable wherever she came. Sometimes she staid eight or ten days at one gentleman's house, and as long at another's, sharing in all the diversions which the country afforded; but, at the same time, did not neglect to forward the main design which she had in view, namely, the propagating the Pretender's cause. To this end she advised the chiefs to exercise their several clans as frequently as they could. And when a clan was summoned together for that purpose she was always present, and even directed the officers how to instruct the soldiers in the most expert method of handling their arms: and she gave her instructions with so much judgment and candour, that the officers were generally pleased to learn such

improvements of her in the military art, which they saw she was very capable of giving them, and thought it no diminution of their honor to be taught by a woman.

Our heroine being possessed of a considerable sum of money, turned her mind in what manner to place it to the best account; and being introduced to a merchant at *Inverness*, who had retired from business, he advised her to embark the best part of her capital in the Shetland trade, viz. in stockings, shoes, woollen-caps, seamen's coats, flannel-waistcoats, and every sort of apparel worn by sailors. Thus advised, she bought up as many of the above articles as came to about two hundred pounds, which was all the money she intended to venture on the first trial: and having engaged a person to accompany her, every way qualified to act as factor and agent, they agreed with a master of a vessel to convey themselves and goods to *Shetland,* and by the dexterous management of her factor, Mr. Maxwell, in exchanging the woollen articles with the Dutch traders, for wines, brandies, hollands, and geneva, Jenny found, on her return to Scotland, after every expence was defrayed, a net profit of fifty per cent. in her pocket by the trip.

Jenny continued trafficking in this manner ten or twelve years, in which time she had accumulated a considerable sum of money, of which Farmer Sawney, her old friend and landlord, had the care, and ever proved a faithful steward and banker. However, Sawney and his wife dying about the time Jenny lost her mother, to whom she was never reconciled, or indeed ever saw, from the period of her first misfortune; though she had frequently seen and had become perfectly reconciled with her brothers, the youngest of whom, named James, she contrived to place and establish in the farm lately occupied by her friend Sawney.

The time now drew near when the Pretender's cause was to be put at issue again; packet-boats were constantly passing between *France* and *Scotland*, with letters and intelligence, and measures were actually concerted at the *French* court for making an invasion upon these kingdoms. The Pretender's eldest son was to be put at the head of it; for which purpose he was to be furnished with forces, money, and arms, together with the Pope's benediction, his father's blessing, and the *French* king's commission, and the prayers of all the Romish priests in Europe.

Jenny, who abetted the same cause as strenuously as the most fiery zealots among them, now doubled her diligence. She was continually riding about from clan to clan, with messages and advices from one gentleman to another, animating and spiriting up the chiefs to act with vigour and resolution upon this important occasion. And, upon the intelligence that the young *Chevalier* was actually landed in one of the Western Islands, waited on *Donald Cameron* of *Lochiel*, the chief of the Clan of *Cameron*, a strenuous asserter of the Pretender's interests. To him Jenny paid her respects in so particular a manner, that, by her incitement, he was one of the first that sent his people to join the young Pretender, headed by our heroine, while the rebels were on their march to *Perth;* the aid Jenny brought were two hundred stout fellows, and a hundred fat bullocks; with a promise of a further supply of men and cattle; and small presents of refreshments for the Chevalier himself.

The reception our heroine received from the Pretender was such, that she thought herself the happiest woman under the sun; caressed and admired by the man whose esteem she so highly valued; loved and respected by the officers and soldiers, and

was equal (in her own thoughts) to a princess of the first rank. Nor was the chevalier less pleased with her wit and agreeable conversation. Jenny, indeed, was now in the six and fortieth year of her age, and though there was a visible decay in the beauties of her person, there were no less improvements in the excellences of her mind. Her wit was no longer a flash, and then extinct, but a fire continually burning; her natural good sense was matured into a solid judgment, and gave her a very comprehensive knowledge of mankind.

While the rebels lay at *Perth*, Jenny employed herself in visiting the ladies of the town, and in receiving visits from them; and having an admirable talent at fishing out secrets, she soon had a perfect information of things that related to her master's concerns, and became acquainted with the principles of every gentleman in the place. When the rebels broke up from *Perth*, they directed their course to *Dumblain*, and with little interruption marched to *Edinburgh*, which they attacked and gained possession of, Jenny with her sturdy *Camerons* being very forward in this service. The battle of *Prestonpans* soon followed, in which the rebels were victorious, and Jenny distinguished herself in a particu-

lar manner. After the battle was over, the Pretender and his army marched back to *Edinburgh*, and laid siege to the castle; but the governor, General *Guest*, soon convinced them they had to do with a man who knew his duty, and was not to be frightened out of it by big words or threatening messages. The rebels finding all their attempts upon the castle fruitless, broke up the blockade, retired out of town, and encamped at *Dalkeith;* from thence they proceeded to *Carlisle*, which they took possession of, Jenny all along accompanying the fortunes of the young chevalier; but, on some dissention breaking out in their councils, the rebels made a hasty retreat into Scotland, bending their course towards *Stirling*, pursued by General Blakeney at the head of the royalists, when it happened that Miss Jenny and Lady Ogilvie, being in a coach at some distance from the main body of the rebels, were met by some of the opposite party, and carried off before they could be rescued; and were conveyed with the utmost expedition to Edinburgh, then in possession of the royalists, when Miss Jenny was lodged in the castle, where she lay confined from the middle of January, 1745, until the November following; when, upon her petition to the governor, setting forth

her bad state of health, she was admitted to bail. The battle of Culloden decided the fate of the Pretender and his party; and it was with extreme difficulty the *Chevalier* made his escape to France, after encountering the greatest difficulties.

This extraordinary female died in the year 1790.

JAMES CAMPBELL,

(Who killed nine Men at Fontenoy.)

# James Campbell.

JAMES CAMPBELL, a private in an Highland regiment, greatly signalized himself at the battle of Fontenoy, near Tournay. This valiant Highlander killed nine men with his broad-sword, and, making a stroke at the tenth, was prevented by a cannon-ball's shooting off his left arm; after which unlucky accident he was brought off the field of battle by some of his comrades. It but very seldom happens that any thing like suitable rewards are conferred on persons who have signalized themselves by any gallant and heroic service; but, in the case of Campbell, there appeared so extraordinary an instance of resolute and determined valour, that his Royal Highness William Duke of Cumberland preferred him to be a lieutenant in the Highland regiment, in which he had so bravely distinguished himself.

The portrait of Campbell was published in 1745, a little previous to the breaking out of the rebellion in that year. The story of Campbell, and that of Thomas Brown, the gallant dragoon,

at the battle of Dettingen, who so nobly recovered a standard which had been taken by the enemy, engaged the conversation of most companies for a long time after the events had taken place, and there was scarcely a village throughout the kingdoms but had the walls of its cottages decorated with the portraits of these brave soldiers.

LODOWICK CAMPBELL,

(Thief-Taker.)

# Lodowick Campbell,

## A THIEF-TAKER AND CONVICT.

THE customs and manners of the Scottish nation so widely differ with those of their southern neighbours, that it is scarcely possible to elicit any thing to give satisfactory intelligence with respect to matters, which otherwise would become particularly interesting!

Among many others involved under these circumstances stands very prominent the case of LODOWICK CAMPBELL, a noted thief-taker, and subsequently a convict.—Sir William Musgrave, a gentleman of the deepest research, could gather no farther particulars of this man than that he was the reputed bastard-brother of Archibald Campbell, Duke of Argyle and Greenwich, who died in 1761, and that for some atrocious offence he was convicted, and suffered death at Edinburgh. That his crime was not of an ordinary nature, may naturally be supposed from the uncommon manner his portrait represents

him in confinement in the *Tolbooth*. *Jack Shepherd's* manacles to secure his person were nothing in comparison with *Campbell's;* the iron collar round his neck, the chains, bolts, and bars, with which he appears encumbered, would lead us to imagine he had committed some heinous offence, little short of that horrid Scotch cannibal *Sawney Bean*,* who, with his wife, the whole of his numerous murdering progeny, consisting of eight sons, six daughters, eighteen grand-sons, and fourteen grand-daughters, all begotten in incest, were burnt to death, in three several fires, at *Leith*, near *Edinburgh*, in the reign of King James the Sixth of Scotland, and First of England, without any process, it being thought needless to try creatures who were the professed enemies to mankind.

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* This execrable monster, with a woman as viciously inclined as himself, took up their habitation in a rock, by the sea-side, on the shore of the county of *Galway*, where they lived upwards of twenty-five years, without going into any city, town, or village. In this time they had children and grand-children, whom they brought up after their own manner, and never kept company but among themselves, and were supported by living on the flesh of travellers whom they robbed and murdered, calculated at a thousand at least of men, women, and children.

The portrait of *Lodowick Campbell*, which originally belonged to Sir William Musgrave, formed part of a collection of remarkable persons made by Mr. William Richardson, for the late Duke of Roxburgh, and was purchased at the sale of his books and prints, by the Marquis of Blandford, now Duke of Marlborough, for ninety guineas.

# Elizabeth Canning, Mary Squires, and Mother Wells.

On the 6th of January, 1753, the following advertisement appeared in the Daily Advertiser:—"Whereas Elizabeth Canning went from her friends, between Houndsditch and Bishopsgate, on Monday last, the 1st instant, between nine and ten o'clock; whoever can give any account where she is, shall have two guineas reward, to be paid by Mrs. Canning, a sawyer, in Aldermanbury Postern; which will be a great satisfaction to her mother. She is fresh-colored, pitted with the small-pox, has a high forehead, light eye-brows, about five feet high, eighteen years of age, well-set, had on a masquerade purple stuff-gown, a black petticoat, a white chip-hat, bound round with green, a white apron and handkerchief, blue stockings, and leather-shoes."

"Note.—It is supposed she was forcibly taken away by some evil-disposed person, as she was

ELIZABETH CANNING.

heard to shriek out in a hackney-coach in Bishopsgate-street. If the coachman remembers any thing of the affair, by giving an account as above, he shall be handsomely rewarded for his trouble."

Elizabeth Canning, the mother, having a very good character, and being well esteemed in the neighbourhood, where she had lived many years, and the girl having always bore a good reputation, and being so young, the neighbours interested themselves greatly in the poor woman's misfortune, and promised to contribute to a larger reward for the discovery of the girl, which was accordingly advertised, and every other method that could be thought of put in practice, but without gaining the least intelligence of what was become of her. No place was left unsearched by the afflicted mother; even gaols and hospitals were not omitted, lest peradventure some mistake or accident might have brought her daughter into one or other of them; but all in vain were these enquiries, and nothing was heard of the girl until the 29th day of January, when she returned to her mother's house about ten o'clock at night, in a most frightful and miserable condition, and gave the following account:—"That, on

the 1st of January, about ten at night, as she was proceeding along Moorfields, two men met her nearly opposite Bethlehem-gate; who, after robbing her of half-a-guinea in gold, and three shillings in silver, of her hat, gown, and apron, violently dragged her into a gravel-walk, that leads down to the gate of Bethlehem Hospital; about the middle of which one of the men, after threatening to do for her, gave her a violent blow with his fist on the right temple, that threw her into a fit, and entirely deprived her of her senses; and when she came to herself, she perceived that two men were hurrying her along in a large road-way, and that in a little time after she was recovered, she was able to walk alone; however, they still continued to pull and drag her along; that she was so intimidated by their usage, that she durst not call out, nor even speak to them; that in about half an hour after the recovery of her senses they carried her into an house, where she saw in the kitchen an old gipsy-woman and two young women; that the old gipsy-woman took hold of her by the hand, and promised to give her fine cloaths, if she would go their way; which she understanding to mean the becoming a prostitute, she utterly refused to comply with; upon

which the old gypsy-woman took a knife out of a drawer, and cut off her stays, and took them away from her, at which time one of the men likewise took off her cap, and then both of the men went away; that soon after they were gone, and about an hour after she had been in the house, the old gypsy-woman forced her up an old pair of stairs, and pushed her into a back room like a hay-loft, without any furniture whatsoever in the same, and there locked her up, threatening that if she made the least noise or disturbance, she, the old gypsy, would come up and cut her throat, and then fastened the door on the outside, and went away. When it was day-light, upon her looking round to see in what dismal place she was confined, she discovered a large black jug, with the neck much broken, filled with water, and several pieces of bread, amounting to about the quantity of a quartern-loaf, scattered on the floor, where was likewise a small parcel of hay. In this room she continued from that time till about half-an-hour after four o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, the 29th day of the same month, January, being in all twenty-seven days and upwards, without any other sustenance than the aforesaid bread and water, except one

small minced-pie, which she had in her pocket, which she was carrying home as a present to her little brother. She had some part remaining of this provision on the Friday before she made her escape, which she did by breaking out at a window of the room or loft in which she was confined, and whence, having escaped, she got back to her mother's house in London in about six hours, in a most weak and miserable condition, without ever once stopping at any house or place by the way: during her whole confinement no person ever came near her to ask her any question whatever, nor did she see any belonging to the house more than once, when one of the women peeped through a hole in the door, but she herself was afraid to call or speak to any one."

Her absence had made so much noise, and appeared so unaccountable, that as soon as the news of her being returned was known, a great many people went to her mother's house to see and talk with her; but her weak condition would not permit her to answer a great many questions. In answer to the general enquiry, if she could not tell where she had been, she answered that it was somewhere upon the Hertford-road, because she had seen the coachman who used to carry her mistress to Hertford go

by, and that she had once heard the name of Wills or Wells mentioned in the house; upon this, some of those who came to see her said, it certainly must be Mother Wells, at Enfield Wash, a house of very ill fame. This appearing probable to her friends, it was determined that the girl, though in a most weak condition, should go before the sitting alderman, and make affidavit of the affair, in order to obtain a warrant for the apprehending of Mother Wells. A warrant being granted by the alderman, it was resolved that the girl should be carried down in a coach the next day, and several of her friends agreed to accompany her on horseback; among which were Mr. Lyon, her master whom she lived with; Mr. Wintlebury, with whom she had lived before; a Mr. Nash, Mr. Hage, Mr. Aldrich, Mr. Adamson, Mr. Skernet, Mrs. Woodward, and many other persons. When they reached the place, the girl was first carried out of the coach in a man's arms into the kitchen of Mother Wells's house, and set on the dresser, where she seemed very faint and ill; upon which her master, Lyon, bid her not be frightened, for she was among friends; but at the same time charged her to be sure not to swear any thing rashly, but to be quite certain before she fixed

upon any one. She was then carried into the parlour where Mother Wells, the gypsy, her son and daughter, Virtue Hall and Judith Natus, were, under the care of an officer, who had apprehended them early in the morning. As soon as she was brought into the room, the girl pitched upon the gypsy as the person who had cut her stays off, and said that Lucy Squires and Vertue Hall stood by. As to Mother Wells, she said that she did not know she had ever seen her before, and she could not say any thing as to George Squires. The whole party were, however, carried before Justice Fyshemaker, who, after a strict examination, discharged all except the gypsy, Mary Squires, and Mother Wells, one of whom he committed to prison, as being sworn against by the girl for robbing her of her stays, and the other for keeping a disorderly house.

The friends of Canning were not entirely satisfied until they had applied to Justice Fielding, who, upon Elizabeth Canning's making an information upon oath before him, granted a warrant for apprehending Vertue Hall, who being taken into custody, and brought before Justice Fielding, she resolutely persisted in the same declaration she had made before Justice Fyshemaker, viz. that she had never seen

Canning, and that no such robbery was committed in that house since she had been in it. And this she positively stood to for six hours, until the justice plainly told her, he would examine her no longer, but would commit her to prison, and leave her to stand or fall by the evidence that should be produced against her, and, at the same time, advised Mr. Sall to prosecute her as a felon. Upon this she begged him to hear her once more, and she would tell the truth; and, accordingly, made a disclosure agreeable to the statement made by Canning, of her robbery and detention. Shortly after, Mary Squires and Susannah Wells were indicted; first, for that she, on the 2d of January, 1753, in the dwelling-house of the said Susannah Wells, on Elizabeth Canning, spinster, did make an assault and took from her a pair of stays, value ten shillings, her property; the latter, for that she, well knowing that she, Mary Squires, to have done and committed the said robbery, her the said Mary did then and there feloniously receive, harbour, conceal, comfort, and maintain, against the peace, and the form of the statute.

*Elizabeth Canning* deposed to all the circumstances, as before related to her mother and friends, with a circumstantial account of her escape, viz. by

breaking down a board that was nailed at the inside of the window, which was about eight or ten feet from the ground; that first she got her head out, and kept fast hold by the wall, turning herself round, and jumping into a narrow place by a lane, with a field behind it; it was on a soft clay-ground, and it was not then dark. For cloathing, she took an old bed-gown and handkerchief that were in this hay-loft, and lay in a grate in the chimney, and made her ear bleed in getting out; the handkerchief she had tied over her head instead of a cap, and it was very bloody. On her cross-examination, she was asked whether, during the time she was there, she did not try if the door was fastened or not? she answered, that she did once push against it with her hands, and found it fast; that she sometimes heard people blowing the fire, and passing in and out; there was another room, in which she heard a noise at night, but the house was very quiet in the day-time; that she eat all her bread on the Friday before she got out; it was quite hard, and she used to soak it in the water; that she drank all her water, about half an hour before she got out.

In support of Canning's evidence, *Vertue Hall being sworn, deposed*, I know the two prisoners at

the bar; Wells lived at Enfield-wash, I went and lived there as a lodger. Mary Squires lived in the house, and had been there seven or eight weeks. About a fortnight before Canning was brought in, which was on the 2d of January, about four in the morning; she was brought in there by two men; John Squires, son of Mary Squires, was one of them; the other man I never saw before. When she was brought in she had no gown on, nor hat or apron. Mary Squires, the prisoner, and her daughter, with myself, were then in the house; the gypsy-man said, mother, I have brought you a girl, do you take her; then she asked Canning if she would go their way, meaning to turn whore, but she would not; then Mary Squires took a knife out of a dresser-drawer in the kitchen, and pushed her up into the room, ripped the lace off her stays, pulled them off, and hung them on the back of a chair, and pushed her up into the room, and said, d——n you, go up there then if you please; then the man that came in with the gypsy's son took off Canning's cap, and went out of doors with it; and John Squires took the stays off the chair and went out with them. Canning was then up in the room. I had been in that room several times before she was brought there; there

was a great deal of hay in it, many pieces of wood, a tobacco mould, and a black jug, which Mary Squires, three hours after the young woman had been there, filled with water, and carried up. When I went out of the kitchen, I went into the parlour; Wells said, Virtue Hall, the gypsy-man, came in and told her, that his mother had cut the stays off the young woman's back, and went out with them. I was there a quarter of a year in all, and the whole time that Canning was there, but never saw her after she was put in that room; I was the first that missed her. I asked Squires whether the girl was gone? she answered, what is that to you, you have no business with it; but I durst not go to see if she was gone, if I had, very likely she would have served me in the same manner. Fortune Natus lodged in the house at the same time; Mary Squires continued in the house after this till we were all taken up; that is, the Thursday after the young woman was gone. I went there as a lodger, but was forced to do as they would have me.

*Thomas Colley*, Canning's uncle, confirmed Canning's evidence of her being at his house January 1.

*Elizabeth Canning*, the mother, John Wintle-

bury, Joseph Adamson, Edmund Lion, (the girl's master,) Robert Skernet, and Edward Rossiter, all respectable tradespeople, deposed to the weak state and wretched appearance of the girl at her return home.

*Sutherto Bakler*, apothecary, deposed, that he saw Canning the day after she came home; she was so extremely low and weak he could hardly hear her speak, and her pulse scarcely to be felt, with cold sweats; she had no passage during her confinement; she had a clyster administered to her the same day, and many more afterwards, which in time relieved her.

This was all the evidence called in support of the prosecution; and the prisoners being called on for their defence, Elizabeth Squires called

*John Gibson*, who deposed thus.—I live at Abbotsbury, six miles from Dorchester. I am master of the house called the Old Ship; on the 1st of January, 1753, the prisoner Squires came into the house; there was George her son, and Lucy her daughter, as she called them, with her; she came with handkerchiefs, lawns, muslins, and checks to sell about town; she staid there from the first to

the ninth of the month, and lay at my house, which I have kept two years come Lady-day.

*William Clark*, an inhabitant of Abbotsbury, where he had resided seven years, deposed to having seen the gypsy sell the above landlord's wife some aprons, and saw her there on the 1st of January, and met her with her son and daughter on the 10th, and went with them some way together, and parted at Crudway-foot, four miles from Abbotsbury.

*Thomas Grevil* deposed, that he lived at Coom, three miles from Salisbury, kept the sign of the Lamb, a public-house there; that he saw Mary Squires at his house the 14th of January last; there was with her her sister and brother, as she called them; they sold handkerchiefs, lawns, and such things; they stopped at Coom but one night. That the reason of his taking notice of the day was, there was a carpenter at his house, who had spent the greatest part of his money, and it being Sunday night, he would have him go about his business, and put him out of the house two or three times; after that he went to another house, and pawned his axe.

In opposition to the testimony of these witnesses the counsel for the crown called *John Jnifer, who deposed*, I sell fish and oysters about Waltham-cross, and Theobalds; I know the prisoner Squires very well by sight; the last time I saw her was when she was taken at Wells's house; before that I have seen her several times every day, up and down, before she was taken; I am certain I saw her three weeks before, going into people's houses, pretending to tell fortunes; she told me mine; I saw no goods she had; I saw a young man in blue-grey when she was taken up, all taken in the house of Wells.

Wells being called upon to make her defence, said, as to her character it was but an indifferent one; that she had an unfortunate husband who was hanged, and added, that she never saw the young woman (Canning) till they came to take them up; and as to Squires, she never saw her above a week and a day before they were all taken up.

The jury brought in their verdict, Squires guilty, Death. Wells guilty, *branded*, and to be imprisoned in Newgate six months.

This affair of Elizabeth Canning and the gipsy made a great noise, and party-spirit had grown to such a height that regular leaders espoused the

cause of each, Henry Fielding, Esq. for the Canaanites or friends to the cause of Elizabeth Canning, and Dr. Hill for the Egyptians or friends to the cause of the gipsy, Mary Squires. Some inaccuracies and contradictions appearing in the evidence given by Elizabeth Canning on her first deposition before the alderman, and her subsequent one before Justice Fielding, and it being proved on the trial she had not truly described the place of her alleged confinement, the friends of the gipsy, among whom was Sir Crisp Gascoyne, lord-mayor, so much exerted themselves in her behalf, that they first procured a respite for six weeks, and afterwards a free pardon for Mary Squires. Not content with this, a prosecution was set on foot against Canning, who, at the next sessions, was indicted for perjury. Her friends being informed of this new proceeding, resolved to invalidate the evidence against her, and accordingly indicted the Abbotsbury men for the same crime. But the grand-jury, on observing the manifest contradictions in the evidence, threw out both the bills; this was at the April sessions. But, before the next sessions, in June, Canning's friends were informed that another bill would be preferred against her, for which reason they preferred bills against the gipsy's

witnesses; all which bills were found the 9th of June, when the solicitor for the country-witnesses gave bail for their appearance at the next sessions to be held at the Old Bailey; but the solicitor for Canning refused to do the same for her, and her friends kept her a long time in concealment, till she was forced, by a writ of outlawry, to come forth and take her trial. In the mean time, September, 1753, the trial of the Abbotsbury witnesses came on, but no evidence appearing on the part of the prosecution, they were all three acquitted.

In May, 1754, Elizabeth Canning, spinster, was indicted for wilful and corrupt perjury, on the trial of Mary Squires, the gipsy, in swearing that she was robbed by the said Mary Squires of a pair of stays, value ten shillings, in the house of Susannah Wells, at Enfield-wash, January 2, 1753.

*Esther Hopkins* deposed, she lived at South Parrot, in Dorsetshire; that she believed she saw the gipsy-woman, her son and daughter (who were all three in the court, that each witness might see them as they came to give evidence) at her house on the 29th of December, 1752.

*Alice Farnham* deposed, that she lived at Vineyard's-gap, and that the old woman and her son

were at her house on a Saturday morning, a little before New Christmas, 1752, and believed the daughter was with them, but not quite positive as to her.

*George Squires*, the gypsy's son, deposed, that he, his mother, and sister Lucy, were at South Parrot on the 29th of December, 1752; they went to Litton the next day, and on the 31st to Abbotsbury; where they staid from the 1st of January to the 9th, on which day they went to Portsham, and from thence to Ridgway, and on the 11th to Dorchester; from whence they set out, and walked almost all night, and got to another village, and the next day they lay at Morton in a barn; and on the day after they lay at Coombe, after which he could not recollect where he lay, till he came to Basingstoke, where he was directed to lodgings at Old Basing; then they travelled to Bagshot, and lay there; and after that to Brentford, and from thence to the Seven Sisters, and the Two Brewers, near Tottenham, and from thence to Mother Wells's at Enfield-wash; that his business there was to remain till he could get a debt which was due to him in London, of seven pounds fifteen shillings; being afraid of going to his own lodgings, at Newington Butts, where he had goods of his own, for

fear of being arrested; that he had been there but a week and a day before his mother was taken up and committed.

On his cross-examination, he gave a very lame account how he went from Newington to South Parrot, and named as many counties he went through as towns, and could not name a sign or inn that he lay at.

There were four people from Litton deposed, they saw the old woman, her son and daughter there, at the time he mentioned; and eleven from Abbotsbury, to that of their being there from the 1st of January, 1753, to the 9th of the same; and four to their seeing them at Portsham, on the 9th and 10th; one at Fordington on the 11th; one at Chattel on the 12th; three at Martin on the 13th; five at Coombe on the 14th; one at Basingstoke on the 18th; two at Brentford on the 20th, 21st, and 22d; two that they were near the Seven Sisters by Tottenham, on the 23d of January, 1753.

*Mr. Alderman Chitty* deposed, from his minutes, the description Canning gave of the room and furniture in which she was confined, viz. in that room an old stool or two, an old table, an old picture over the chimney, two windows in the room,

one fastened up with boards, and the other part ditto with glass; that she made a hole by removing a pain of glass; forced a part open, and got out upon a shed, &c.

*Gawin Nash* deposed, that he was with Canning before Alderman Chitty; that there she was asked what sort of a room it was that she was confined in? she said it was a little square darkish room; that there were boards nailed up at the window, and that through the cracks she could see the Hertford stage-coach, which used to carry her mistress. He likewise deposed, that she said there were an old broken stool or chair, an iron-grate in the chimney, and a few old pictures hung over the chimney, and that she lay upon boards. He said he was much affected with this melancholy affair, being there during the whole examination. That he went down to Mother Wells's, in order to execute the warrant the next morning, which was February 1, and as he was going down, he met several people, who told him they had seized them all; that he went on, and when he came to Wells's house, he went up into several rooms; and after that he saw a man there, and asked if there were not other rooms in the house; that the man shewed him into this room

and went with him; that when he got into this room he wondered where the room was Canning had described she had been confined in; for, says he, this did not in any part answer the description she gave, for it was a very long room; that he then came down, and with others went back into the room together; that then somebody said this must be the room; that he then said, it answered not the description she had given of it, for he says he observed in the room near half a load of hay; a nest of drawers, about four feet by three high; and a tub in which was some pollard; three old saddles, two of which were women's saddles; and a parcel of hay made in form of a bed; that over the bed were a jack-line and pullies, and there was a hole where the jack-line had gone through, which was stuffed with hay; that it was a thin clay and lath wall which separated that and the kitchin, and that if the hay had been removed, one might see very plain into and across the kitchen into the road; that there was a little chimney in the room, which seemed a little place for warming a glue-pot; and that he observed an old dusty casement, which seemed to have stood over the chimney for some years; that there was no grate, nor the appearance of any grate in the chimney; that he observed the window out of which she

said she made her escape; that within nine or ten feet of the window there was a watering-pond; that the other window of the room never had been boarded up, and that was large enough for him to get out at, and that it was so low that he shook hands with his wife out of it; that the casement opened and shut extremely easy, and that there were trees grew so very near that they were almost within his reach; and the room was very light, nor saw he any pitcher there. When Canning was brought in and set upon the dresser, the door of that room being open, she might have seen the stairs leading up into the room; being carried into the parlour where all the people were, she instantly fixed upon Mary Squires; but, he says, she could not see Mary Squires's face at that time. —He says, after this, Canning was carried into several rooms, and at last into the work-shop; when she came there, she said she believed that to be the room. Upon being asked, what she remembered it by? She said, she remembered hay in the room, and that was the hay she lay upon, but there was more; she took up the jug, saying it was that she had her water in. Upon her being asked about the saddle and the drawers, she said, she did not remember them (which she says were dusty, and seemed to have been there a great while); being

asked, why she did not get out at the east window? answered, she thought it was fast. He says, when they came down into the parlour, Natus's wife declared, that she and her husband had lain there for eleven weeks together, and that Mary Squires had been there a very little time.

Upon this, being asked why he did not give this evidence upon the trial of Mary Squires, he said he was in court part of the trial, and that he was extremely uneasy in his own mind; that being butler of the Goldsmith's company, and having the charge of a great deal of plate, and thinking, at the same time, that Mary Squires would have been acquitted, he went away and did not come again. He says, he did not think, upon the observations he had made, there could have been sufficient proof to convict her; and when he heard she was convicted, he was extremely affected and uneasy.—Upon his cross-examination he said, that before he left the Old-Bailey, Canning had gone through the whole of her evidence, or very near it, and that she had swore the robbery upon the gypsy; but he thought within himself Canning had given false evidence, or, however, it might be a mistake; that he is not certain whether Judith Natus was in the room the whole

time he was there (meaning at Wells's) neither could he be certain that she had lain there ten or eleven weeks; but upon this, he says, he quite dropped his opinion of Canning, though a great friend of her's before.

The next witness called was Mr. White, the marshall's man, servant to my Lord-Mayor, who gave an account of his going down to apprehend Mother Wells for this robbery; he gave an account in what manner they were all secured, and likewise of his going into the hay-loft; that there he saw twelve or fifteen trusses of hay, which he thought had been there a long time; also a chest of drawers, the barrel of a gun, and an old musket; that when he looked into the room, he was suspicious, and thought Canning was mistaken, because it did not agree with the description she had given; he said he went and looked at the north window, to see if he could find the mark of any body's getting out; that he observed the ground was clay, which did not appear to have been trod upon; and, upon the whole, it did not appear to him that any body had got out of that window.

*Fortune Natus* deposed, that he and his wife lay in that very room during the time Canning says she

was confined there; that when they came there, there was half a load of hay in it, which room he says was called the work-shop; he said his bed was made of hay and straw, and his bolster a sack of wool; there was no grate in the room, but such articles as described by the former witnesses.

*Judith Natus* gave much the same account as her husband.

*Sarah Larney*, a chandler's-shop-keeper, two daughters of Mother Wells, and seven others, deposed to Natus's living in the house at the time stated.

*Here the counsel for the prosecution rested it.*

FOR THE PRISONER.

*Edward Lions* deposed, that Elizabeth Canning lived servant with him till the time she was missing, January 1, 1753; that he had known her sixteen years, and gave her an extremely good character; that she went to see her uncle (with leave) but he saw no more of her till the 31st of the same month; that he and several others went down to Mother Wells's house, and the people of the house were secured; that when Canning was brought there and set upon the dresser, he cautioned her to be very careful, to charge nobody but who she was sure was

guilty; she said she would be very careful; that the first of the people taken up she saw was Mother Wells; on her seeing her she said she had done nothing at all to her; but upon seeing Mary Squires, said she was the woman who cut her stays off. Being asked, if he believed she saw her face before she challenged her? he said, yes, and she thought George Squires, after he had put on his great-coat, extremely like one of the men that robbed her in Moorfields; he also said, that Mr. Nash seemed, at coming home, to be very well satisfied at what was done, or at least had very little or no room to think the contrary; that Mr. Nash was once at his house afterwards, and at going away said, *Mr. Lion, I hope God Almighty will destroy the model by which he made that face, and never make another by it,* meaning the gypsy; and that Mr. Nash sent him the letter which was shewn to Mr. Nash in court on his examination, and which he owned to be his hand-writing, dated February 10, to this purport:—*Mr. Lion, I am informed by Mr. Aldridge, who has been at Enfield, that if a person was appointed there to receive contributions, some money would be raised in that place for the unhappy poor girl. I wish you success, and am, yours,* GAWEN NASH. That Mr. Hague, as

we were coming up, said he saw no grate in the chimney, or picture over it; that he answered, they were moveable things, and might be taken away since; that they came home all very good friends; that he never found any doubt from Mr. Nash, Aldridge, and Hague, till after the trial of Squires; and that he verily believed, when he saw Mr. Nash in court on the trial of Mary Squires, that he would then have given his evidence against her.

*Thomas Colley*, Canning's uncle, deposed the same he did on the trial of Squires.

*Elizabeth Canning*, the mother, deposed, that her daughter was nineteen years old, and to the same purport as on the former trial. On her cross-examination she said, she had been to a conjurer in the Old-Bailey, to enquire where her daughter was, &c.; that he took her money and bid her go home, and she would come again.

*Mary Northan* deposed, that she carried all the advertisements to the printer, which were in the Daily Advertiser, by the directions of Mrs. Canning.

*James Lord*, apprentice to Mrs. Canning, deposed to E. Canning's being missed; the great concern his mistress was in on that account; and that when she

returned, his mistress was at prayers for her daughter's return; that when she came to the door, he knew her not at first, nor till she spoke, she was in such a deplorable condition; that his mistress fell in a fit upon it; that she had a bit of a handkerchief over her head, and an old jacket on, and that she was a very sober girl.

*Robert Scarrat* deposed, that he, hearing Canning was returned, the night she came home went to her mother's house; that he heard her say she had been on the Hertfordshire-road, about eight or nine miles from London; that he said he would lay a guinea to a farthing she had been at the house of Mother Wells; and that she said she heard the name of Wills or Wells mentioned while she was in confinement, (which was in a long, darkish room) and saw a coachman, whom she knew, go by, through a crack of the boards at the window.—Being asked, if he had any knowledge of Elizabeth Canning before? said, he never saw her to his knowledge before that night; he said, he had been at Mother Wells's house sometimes, when he lived with Mr. Snee, at Edmonton.

*Mary Myers* deposed, that she had known the mother and daughter for many years; that the daughter is a very sober girl, and always behaves as well as any

in England; that when she returned her mother sent the apprentice for her, and she came; she found her in a very bad condition, her face and arms being black, which she thought might be occasioned by the cold weather; that she kneeled down to talk to her, she answered so low, and she told her how she was taken away by two men, &c.; that she saw her ear very bloody, which appeared fresh, and had dropped on her shoulder.

*John Wintlebury* deposed, he had known her fourteen or fifteen years, that she lived with him about eighteen months, and behaved exceedingly well; that upon hearing she was come home, he went that night; that she described a broken pitcher which held about a gallon of water, and such a one he found when he went into the room, and that Canning saw part of Squires's face before she fixed upon her, as he believes.

*Mary Woodward* deposed, she was sent for by Mrs. Canning the night her daughter returned, and learnt the foregoing particulars; and that the old woman was a tall, black, swarthy woman.

*Joseph Addison* deposed, he had known Elizabeth Canning ever since she was big enough to walk about; that the first time he saw her, after she came

home, was the day they went down to Enfield-wash; that none of them had horses but Mr. Wintlebury and he; that he was there before the coach; and after the people were taken up, he rode back to tell them in the coach not to stop at a place where they had agreed to call; that he did not tell Canning at that time there was hay in the room, but after he had spoke to the coachman to make haste; he then asked Canning what sort of a place it was she was confined in? she said, an odd, or wild sort of a place; that there was some hay, and somewhat else, which he could not remember; and he then rode on.

*Mr. Backler*, an apothecary in Aldermanbury, deposed to the same effect as on the trial of Squires, and said, when he heard she was gone to Enfield-wash, when the people were taken up, he thought her not able to perform the journey; and that it was very improper for her to undertake it, she being very much emaciated and wasted.

*Dr. Eaton* deposed, that he saw her on the 6th of February, at her mother's, in a very weak condition, and was very apprehensive she would die; she complained of pain in her bowels, and could hardly keep any thing in her stomach; she took a little chicken-broth, and appeared in great distress. Being asked,

if he saw any signs of her being an impostor? he answered, he did not. Being asked, if there were any symptoms of her being lately under a salivation? he answered, nothing like it; nothing like it, I will assure you; but that she appeared as one almost starved.

*Robert Beals*, the turnpike-man at Stamford-hill, deposed, that at the beginning of January, as he was standing by the gate, near eleven at night, he heard a sobbing and crying on the road; it came from Newington way, and drew nearer and nearer; at last he perceived it was two men and a young woman, seemingly by her crying; one said, come along, you bitch; you are drunk; the other said, how drunk the bitch is! and made a sort of laugh, but she seemed unwilling to go. One of them got over the stile, and the other laid hold of one of her legs or both, and lifted them over, so that she came down upright; she hung back and fell on her breech, on the step of the stile, crying bitterly, as though she could go no farther; that he went nearer them, expecting she would speak to him, but there being two men, and he alone, he did not think it safe to interpose; that one pulled her, and the other jostled her along, till they were out of sight, going towards Enfield.

*Thomas Bennet* deposed, thathe, living at Enfield,

near the ten miles'-stone, on the 29th of January, 1753, between four and five in the afternoon, between Mother Wells's and his own house, saw a miserable poor wretch coming along, without either gown, stays, cap, hat, or apron on, only a dirty thing, like a half handkerchief, over her head, and a piece of something on, that reached down just below her waist, with her hands lying together before her; she asked him the way to London.

*David Dyer* deposed, he lived at Enfield-wash; that about a quarter of a mile from Mother Wells's house, towards London, at four in the afternoon, three evenings before Mother Wells and her family were taken up, he saw a poor distressed creature pass by him out of the common field; he said to her, sweetheart, do you want a husband? she made no answer. She had a thing tied on her head like a white handkerchief, walking with her hands before her, very faintly; she was a shortish woman, with a shortish sort of a thing on; that he looked at her face as she passed, and said, upon looking on Elizabeth Canning, he takes her to be the same person.

*Mary Cobb* deposed, she lived at Edmonton; that she met a person in Luck's-fields, in a poor distressed condition, between the six and seven miles'-stones,

on the 29th of January, just at the setting-in of day-light. She had a handkerchief pinned over her head, which hid part of her face; she had a black petticoat and an old bed-gown; she had a young face, and walked creepingly along. Upon her being bid to look at Elizabeth Canning, and see if she knew her? she said she had never seen her since that time, but firmly believed it was her, by the tip of her nose, which, she said, bears some resemblance to the person she met.

*William Howard* deposed, he lived at Enfield-wash, right over against Mother Wells's; has a small fortune of his own, and has a little employment under the government, on which he lives. He said, Edward Aldridge the silversmith, and a cousin of his of the same name, his neighbour, came to him about two or three days after Squires and Wells were taken up, and brought a printed case of Canning to recommend a contribution on her behalf; he looked upon it that he came to him on that very purpose, and had then no apprehension of any dissatisfaction. About six or seven days after, he came again; then he asked what he thought of it? Aldridge made answer, there was one thing he was not quite clear in, and that was the description she had given of the room; but

he said he thought she had been there, and had been very ill used.

*Mrs. Howard* confirmed the testimony of her husband, and added, that the first time she can recollect that she saw Mary Squires, her son and two daughters, she believes to be on Sunday se'nnight before they were taken up, which was the 21st of January; that they were standing at Wells's door.

*William Headland* deposed, he was at his father's at Enfield, before January was twelvemonth, and saw Wells and Squires taken up; that he found a piece of lead all bloody on the ground, near the window which the girl said she got out at, after they were taken up; that he carried it to his mother, who laid it up, but it is since lost; that he saw Mary Squires on Tuesday, the 9th of January, under Lomas Deane's (at the Bell at Enfield) brick-wall, telling a young man his fortune; that he saw her on the 12th, at Wells's house, and her two daughters were with her; one of them was buckling up her pumps which she had on.

*Elizabeth Headland*, mother to the last witness, deposed, her son brought her a piece of lead that was bloody, after Squires was taken up; she laid it in a table-drawer, and it is since lost; he said he found

it a little way from Mrs. Wells's window, where the girl said she got it.

*Samuel Story* deposed, he lives at Waltham-Abbey, in Essex, on his own fortune (looks at Mary Squires) and says he saw her several times in White-Webb's-lane; that the last time he saw her was on the 28th of December, 1752, sitting within the door of Mrs. Wells's house; this was on a fine frosty morning; that he took particular notice of her, and knew her to be the same person he had seen in White-Webb's-lane, where he used to ride two or three times a week; that he remembered this 28th of December, by it's being a fine frosty morning when he went out; the weather changing, and it's raining as he went home, he got cold, and the rheumatism and St. Anthony's fire followed; that he was not out of his house for near two months after that; and is certain both as to the old woman and the day.

*William Smith*, of Enfield, deposed, that on the 14th of December, 1752, Mary Squires (whom he saw in court) lay in his cow-house, and for two nights after; that there were two men and two women with her; and she had been about the country near him some time.

*Lomworth Dane* deposed, that he lived at Enfield-

wash, (looks at Mary Squires) and says, he is sure he saw her last Old Christmas-day was twelvemonth. He was filling a barrow from a heap of gravel at his door, and stood resting himself, and she went past him at the same time.

*Samuel Arnot* deposed, he lived at White-Webb's-lane, on Enfield-chace; that on Monday morning, the 9th or 10th of December, 1752, which he says was before New Christmas, Mary Squires enquired of him for a little brown horse she had lost; that she told him her name was Squires; that he saw her the Sunday following; that a man, two women, and two children, were with her; that the children seemed to be about four or five years old; that he never saw her afterwards till he saw her in Newgate, and believes she is the very same person that lay at Farmer Smith's.

*Elizabeth Arnot*, wife to the last witness, deposed, that she saw Mary Squires about a week before New Christmas, which was the first time she had seen her; that afterwards she saw her in Farmer Smith's cow-house; that she came out and asked her about a little horse; that there were several more along with her; that afterwards she saw her in Newgate, after the trial, and believes she is the same person.

*Sarah Starr* deposed, that her husband is a farmer; that she knew Mary Squires, who came to her house, next door to Mrs. Wells's, on the 18th or 19th of January was twelve-month, but never saw her before; that first of all she offered to mend china or delft ware for her; then she came and desired to buy pickled pork and brown bread; that she gave her some chitterlins that lay on the table, in order to get rid of her; believes she saw her in the whole about three quarters of an hour; that she would have told her's and the maid's fortune, but they were afraid of her; she says she was terribly scared, having never seen such a person before.

*Daniel Vass* deposed, that he lived at Turkey-street, in Enfield; that on Christmas-day, the 5th of January, he saw her go by his door, as he was in his own yard; that he saw nobody with her, except she had somebody under her cloak; that he saw her afterwards in Newgate, and is sure she is the same person though not in the same clothes; that when he saw her first, she had an old white beaver hat, a brick-coloured gown, and a red cloak; the reason he gave for its being the day was, that his master did not chuse he should work on that day, because it was Old Christmas; that he never saw her before or since;

that she did not stay at his house above a minute, and that he knew her again in Newgate.

*Jane Dadwell*, of Enfield-wash, deposed, that she kept a chandler's shop there; that the first time she saw her was on the 28th of December, in New Christmas week; that she came to her shop; and that Mary Squires, the daughter, had been there several times before; that the reason of her remembering the day was, she had dressed meat to give her customers; that after she was gone, some of the neighbours came in, and asked who she was? that she never saw her afterwards till she saw her in Newgate; that there she owned to her she had been at her house; that Mary Squires did not tell her where she lived; and that she had no company with her.

*Tobias Kelley*, of Enfield, deposed, that he knew Mary Squires; that he remembered seeing her something better than three weeks in January; that he did not know the day of the month, nor was he sure he ever saw her before; that he thinks the time rather before Old Christmas-day; that it was near a month before she was taken up; that she passed by him, and he never saw her before nor afterwards; and after that says he saw her three or four times; and that she asked him for a pipe of tobacco, and would have

told him his fortune; that she did tell one John Rowley his fortune, and told him he had an enemy, and asked for three-pence; he gave her three-halfpence; that he saw nobody with her at any time.

*John Frame*, of Enfield, deposed, that he saw her there on the 11th or 12th of January was twelvemonth: that he was out in the gardens, and she spoke to him through the palisadoes; that he only gave her a halfpenny; that she told him what was good fortune; that he never saw her before, but several times since, and in Newgate; that when he saw her at Enfield, she was by herself, and had a reddish gown on, and a light-coloured cloak.

*Joseph Gold*, of Enfield, labourer, deposed, that he knew Mary Squires, and saw her upon the 8th or 9th of January, about a quarter of a mile from Wells's house; that he took particular notice of her, hearing Mother Wells had some gipsies in her house; that he saw her eight or nine days before she was taken up; and before he saw her, Virtue Hall had told him there were gipsies in Mother Wells's house; that he cannot tell what her dress was; and that she had nobody with her.

*Mary Gold*, *Humphry Holding*, *Sarah Vass*, *Anne Johnson*, *Grace Kirby*, —— *Wise*, *John Pratt*, *Margaret Richardson*, and *Elizabeth Sherrard*, severally deposed to Mary Squires having been in and about the neighbourhood of Enfield from the 21st or 22d of December, to the 18th of the following January, 1753.

*John Ward* deposed, that he knew Wells some years before; that having seen her name in the newspapers, before the trial of Mary Squires, he went to see her in Bridewell; that, after some conversation, he said to her, how could you keep the girl a fortnight? and she answered, she was there twenty-eight days; and when he asked in what room? she said, you know the room well enough.

*Nathaniel Gramphorn* deposed, that he lived at Waltham-cross seven years ago, and knew Judith Natus; that, on the 21st of April last, she came to his house, when he asked her if she knew Canning was at Mother Wells's, how she could go against her? she said, *indeed*, Mr. Gramphorn, *I cannot say but she really was there when we were there.*

*Daniel Stevens* deposed, that he knew Mrs. Wells, and saw Squires in New Prison; that there she

owned she had been at Mother Wells's house, but never cut off the stays or robbed the girl; and that Canning was at Wells's about a fortnight; and that she was there likewise.

*Joseph Haines*, *Daniel Chapman*, and *Thomas Green*, who all lived at Ware, and knew Fortune Natus and his wife, said they had a bad character; and that neither of them was to be believed upon oath.

Mr. *Marshal* deposed, that he had known Elizabeth Canning ever since she could go alone, having lived so long in the neighbourhood, and said she always bore a very good character.

The counsel for the prosecution said, he was to tell the Jury, from the prosecutor, that he had nothing against her exclusive of that fact.

The Jury withdrew, and after being out upwards of two hours, brought in their verdict—GUILTY OF PERJURY, *but not wilful or corrupt;* but the Court telling them that their verdict must be either guilty, or not guilty, they again withdrew, and, in a short time after, brought her in GUILTY, but recommended her to the mercy of the Court: upon which she was immediately committed to Newgate.

This memorable trial lasted eight days; and the populace so much interested themselves in the cause

of Canning, as to proceed to the utmost violence and outrage against the person of Sir Crisp Gascoigne (then Lord-Mayor,) who had avowedly espoused the cause of the gipsy, and was the chief instrument in obtaining her respite and subsequent free pardon; they attacked him in the open streets, broke his coach-windows, and threatened to take away his life; they were chiefly led to this fury, by learning that one of the gipsy's sons had been many years in his service; and, it was reported, was privy to some secret offence his master had been guilty of, the fear of divulging which compelled him to the endeavour of preserving the life of the mother.

In conclusion, the unfortunate Canning, deserted by her friends, who had so ardently at first espoused her cause, was transported; but the public feeling was so strongly excited by the sufferings and injustice done her, that large subscriptions were raised towards her support and comfort.—Her future conduct fully justified the favorable opinion the public had formed of her; for some time she followed the occupation of a school-mistress, and her virtues and meek manner attracted the attention of an opulent quaker in America, to whom she was married, and with whom she is said to have lived very happily.

MAHOMET CARATHA,

(Turkish Equilibrist.)

# Mahomet Caratha,

A TURKISH ROPE AND WIRE-DANCER.

MAHOMET CARATHA was esteemed the best rope-dancer and equilibriest of his time; his extraordinary feats attracted crowded audiences wherever he performed; and his reputation was not diminished by the publication of his portrait, which greatly tended to increase his fame. He continued several seasons to perform with unabated success, and was succeeded in his art by a *Signior Brilla*, of whom there is an engraved print, representing his various postures on the wire.

So far back as the reign of Charles the First there was a Turkish rope-dancer, that appears, by a poem of considerable length, to have exceeded in wonderful performance on the rope, any thing that had ever appeared before of the kind; but the feats of both Turks, those of *Signior Brilla*, the *Little Devil*, and *La Belle Espagniole*, the two latter of whom exhibited about twenty-five

years since, at *Sadler's Wells*, were nothing in comparison with the grace and elegance of the inimitable *Richer*, who performed there about the same time.

All former rope-dancers confined themselves to exhibiting their feats in various attitudes, that were surprising only as they were deemed impossible; and the spectators were in continual dread of some accident attending their dangerous and hazardous attempts; not so with *Richer;* the ease and agility with which he went through his wonderful performances, afforded no other sensation to the audience than pleasure and admiration.

A wonderful performer on the rope of another description, is the present *Madame Saqui*, who for several seasons has surprised the public at Vauxhall, and other places of amusement, by her exhibition on the tight-rope, in a manner never attempted by any but herself.

It does not appear whether Caratha returned to his own country, or ended his days in England.

Bampfylde Moore Carew.

King of the Beggars

# Bamfylde Moore Carew.

Bamfylde Moore Carew was descended from the antient family of the Carews, and the son of the Reverend Theodore Carew, of Bickley, near Tiverton, in the county of Devon, of which parish he was many years rector, very much esteemed while living, and at his death universally lamented. Our hero was born in the month of July, 1693, and never was there known a more splendid appearance of gentlemen and ladies, of the first rank and quality, at any baptism in the West of England, than at his; the Honorable Hugh Bamfylde, Esq. (who afterwards died of an unfortunate fall from his horse,) and the Honorable Major Moore, were both his godfathers; these gentlemen contending whose name he should first bear, the affair was determined by throwing up a piece of money, which was won by Mr. Bamfylde, who, upon this account, presented a large piece of plate, whereon was engraved, in large characters, Bamfylde Moore Carew.

The Reverend Mr. Carew had several other chil-

dren, both sons and daughters, all of whom he educated in a tender and religious manner, and Bamfylde was, at the age of twelve, sent to Tiverton-school, where he contracted an intimate acquaintance with several young gentlemen of the first rank in Somersetshire, Devonshire, Cornwall, and Dorsetshire. In stature he was tall and majestic, his limbs strong and well-proportioned, his features regular, his countenance open and ingenuous, bearing all those characteristic marks which physiognomists assert denote an honest and good-natured mind. During the first four years of his continuance at Tiverton-school, his close application and delight in his studies gave his friends great hopes that he might one day make a good figure in that honorable calling, which his father became so well, and for which he was designed. He attained, for his age, a very considerable knowledge in the Latin and Greek tongues; but soon a new exercise, or accomplishment, engaged all his attention; this was that of hunting, in which he made a surprising progress. The Tiverton scholars had at this time the command of a fine pack of hounds, and Mr. Carew had frequent opportunities of gratifying his inclinations to that diversion. It was then that he entered

into a very strict friendship and familiarity with John Martin, Thomas Coleman, John Escott, and other young gentlemen of the best rank and fortune.

It happened that a farmer, living in the country adjacent to Tiverton, who was a very great sportsman, and used to hunt with the Tiverton scholars, came and acquainted them of a fine deer which he had seen, with a collar about his neck, in the fields about his farm, which he supposed to be the favorite deer of some gentleman not far off. This was very agreeable news to the Tiverton scholars, who, with Mr. Carew, John Martin, Thomas Coleman, and John Escott at their head, went in a great body to hunt it; this happened a short time before the harvest; the chase was very hot, and lasted several hours, and they ran the deer many miles, which did a great deal of damage to the fields or corn, that were then almost ripe. Upon the death of the deer, and examination of the collar, it was found to belong to Colonel Nutcombe, of the parish of Clayhanger. Those farmers and gentlemen who had sustained the greatest damage, came to Tiverton, and complained very heavily to Mr. Rayner, the school-master, of the havoc made in their fields,

which occasioned strict enquiry to be made concerning the ringleaders, who proving to be our hero and his companions, they were so severely threatened that, from fear, they absented themselves from school; and the next day, happening to go into the Brick-house, an ale-house about half a mile from Tiverton, they accidentally fell into company with a society of gypsies, who were there feasting and carousing. This society consisted of seventeen or eighteen persons of both sexes, who that day met there with a full purpose of merriment and jollity; and, after a plentiful meal upon fowls, ducks, and other dainty dishes, the flowing cups of October, cyder, &c. went most cheerfully round, and merry songs and country-dances crowned the jovial banquet: in short, so great an air of freedom, mirth, and pleasure, appeared in the faces and gestures of this society, that our youngsters from that time conceived a sudden inclination to enlist into their company; which, when they communicated to the gipsies, they considering their appearance, behaviour, and education, regarded it as only spoken in jest; but as they tarried there all night in their company, and continued in the same resolution the next

morning, they were at length induced to believe them to be serious, and accordingly encouraged them, and admitted them into their number, the requisite ceremonials being first gone through, and the proper oaths being administered.

Thus was Mr. Carew initiated into the mysteries of a society, which, for antiquity, needs give place to none, as it is evident from the name, which in Latin is called Ægyptus, and in French Ægyptienne, that they derive their original from the Egyptians, one of the most antient and learned people in the world. Mr. Carew's fame among these people soon distinguished him. And a Madam Musgrove, of Munkon, near Taunton, sent for him to consult in an affair of difficulty; she informed him, that she suspected a large quantity of money was buried somewhere about her house, and if he would acquaint her with the particular place, she would handsomely reward him. Our hero consulted the secrets of his art upon this occasion, and, after long toil and study, informed the lady, that under a laurel-tree in the garden lay the treasure she sought for, but that her planet of good fortune would not reign till such a day and such an hour, till which time she should desist from searching for it. The

good lady rewarded him very generously with twenty guineas for this discovery: we cannot tell whether, at this time, Bamfylde was sufficiently initiated in the art, or whether the lady mistook her lucky hour, but the truth obliges us to confess, that the lady dug below the roots of the laurel-tree, without finding the hidden treasure.

In the mean time, his worthy parents sorrowed for him as one that was no more, not being able to get the least tidings of him, though they publicly advertised him, and sent messengers to enquire for him in every part, till, at the expiration of a year and a half, he repaired to his father's house at Bickley, in Devonshire, and being greatly disguised both in habit and countenance, he was not at first known by his parents; but, upon a full discovery, their joy was unbounded, and the whole neighbourhood, particularly the two parishes of Cadley and Bickley, partook of the pleasure his return occasioned; there was nothing for some time but ringing of bells, public feastings, and other marks of festive joy. Mr. Carew's parents did every thing possible to render home agreeable to him; every day he was engaged in some party of pleasure or other. But the uncommon pleasure he had enjoyed in the com-

munity he had left, preyed upon his mind; his pleasures became tasteless, and he relished none of those entertainments his friends daily provided for him. For some time he strove to master his roving inclination, but his health visibly declining, he one day, without taking leave of any of his friends, directed his steps towards Brick-house, at Tiverton, where he had first entered among the gipsies, and finding some of them there, he joined their company, to the great satisfaction of them as well as himself, they rejoicing at having regained one who was likely to be so useful a member to their community.

The principles of the mendicants are like those of the Algerines, a perpetual state of hostility with most other people, and by whatsoever stratagem or fraud they can overreach, is by their laws considered commendable and praiseworthy. Being a second time admitted, at the first general assembly of the gipsies, and taken the oath of allegiance to the sovereign, our hero was by that monarch sent out on a cruise against the enemy. His first stratagem was, the equipping himself with an old pair of trowsers; enough of a jacket to cover his nakedness; stockings such as nature gave; shoes (or rather

the body ofshoes, for soles they had none) a woollen cap, so black that one might swear it had not been washed since Noah's flood ; and, being thus attired, he changed his manners with his dress, and was nothing more or less than an unfortunate shipwrecked seaman. His first excursion gained him considerable booty, having ingeniously imitated the passes and certificates that were necessary for him to travel unmolested; after about a month's travel, he accidentally, at Kingsbridge, in Devonshire, met with Coleman, his school-fellow, one of those who had entered with him among the gipsies, left them, and returned to his friends; but, not finding that satisfaction amongst them as with the gipsies, had again joined that people. Great was the joy of these two friends at meeting, and they agreed to travel together for some time; they proceeded to Totness, and from thence to the city of Exeter, which entering they raised a contribution there in one day, amounting to several pounds.

Having obtained all he could desire from this stratagem, he now became the plain honest country farmer, who lived in the Isle of Sheppey, in Kent, had the misfortune to have his grounds overflowed, and all his cattle drowned. His habit was now neat but rustic;

his air and behaviour simple and inoffensive; his speech in the Kentish dialect; his countenance dejected; his tale pitiful, nay wondrous pitiful; a wife and seven tender helpless infants being partakers of his misfortunes. Having raised a considerable sum by these stratagems, he made the best of his way towards Stratton, in Devonshire, where was held a great assembly of the gipsies. Here he was received with great applause, on account of his success, and had an honorable distinction paid him, in being seated near the king.

Mr. Carew was never happy but when contriving some scheme to put his ingenuity in practice; whenever he heard of any melancholy accident by fire, he immediately repaired to the place where it happened, and getting an exact information of the trades, characters, families, and circumstances of the unhappy sufferers, he directly assumed the name and person of one of them, and burning some part of his coat or hat, as an ocular demonstration of his narrow escape, made the best of his way to places at some distance, and there passes for one who had been burnt out; and, to gain greater credit, shewed a paper signed with the names of several gentlemen in the neighbourhood of the place where

the fire happened, recommending him as an honest unhappy sufferer, by which he got considerable gains. Under this character, he once had the audacity to address Justice Hull, of Exmouth, the terror and professed enemy to every order of gipsies; however, he so artfully managed, though he went through a strict examination, that he at last convinced his worship that he was an honest miller, whose house, mill, and whole substance had been consumed by fire, occasioned by the negligence of an apprentice-boy, and was accordingly relieved as such by the justice.

With so wonderful facility could he assume every character, and metamorphose himself into every shape, that he often deceived those who were most acquainted with him. Coming one day to Squire Portman's, at Brinson, near Blandford, in the character of a rat-catcher, with a hair-cap on his head, a buff girdle about his waist, and a tame rat in a little box by his side, he marched boldly up to the house, and meeting in the court Mr. Portman, and several other gentlemen, he accosted them as a rat-catcher, asking them if they had any rats to kill, and on being questioned as to his knowledge in the business, replied, he had followed it many years,

and had been employed in his majesty's yards and ships. On this he was ordered into the house, and placed at the second table, but one of the company knowing him, notwithstanding his disguise, informed the rest, which occasioned a great deal of mirth, in which our hero came in for his full share; one of the gentlemen, however, saying he should know him in future through any disguise; on a bet being made, Mr. Carew being informed Mr. Pleydell (the gentleman so positive) was to entertain a large party on a particular day, got his beard close shaved, disguised himself in female attire, with a mob-cap and high-crowned hat, borrowing a little hump-backed child from a tinker, and two others from the mendicant tribe, tying two to his back, with the third in his arms, marches away for Mr. Pleydell's, when coming up to the door, he puts his hand behind him, and pinches one of the children, which set it a roaring; this gave the alarm to the dogs, who came out with open mouths; so that between their barking and the child's crying, the family was sufficiently disturbed; out comes one of the maids, saying, carry away the children, old woman; they disturb the ladies. God bless their ladyships, I am the poor

unfortunate grandmother of these poor helpless infants, whose dear mother, and all they had, was burnt at the dreadful fire at Kirton, and hope the good ladies, for God's sake, will bestow something on the poor famished starving infants. This moving story was accompanied with tears; upon which, in goes the maid to acquaint the ladies with the melancholy tale, while the good grandmother kept pinching one or other of the children, that they might play their parts to greater perfection; the maid soon returned with half-a-crown from the ladies, and some good broth, which having received he went into the court-yard to eat, (undertanding the gentlemen were not in the house) and got one of the under-servants, whom he met, to give some to the children on his back. He had not been long there before all the gentlemen came in together, who accosted him with, "Where did you come from, old woman?" from Kirton, please your honours, where the poor unhappy mother of these helpless babes was burnt to death by the flames, and all they had consumed. Damn you, said one of the gentlemen, (who was well known to Carew) there has been more money collected for Kirton than ever Kirton was worth;

however, he gave this poor old grandmother a shilling; the other gentlemen likewise relieved her, commiserating her age, and her burthen of so many helpless infants; not one of them discovering our hero in the old woman, who received their alms very thankfully, and pretended to go away; but the gentlemen were not got into the house, before they were informed by the gentleman known to Carew, that it was him they had relieved in the person of the old woman; on which, being sent for back, he confessed the fact, and partook of a deal of mirth among the company.

In the same manner he raised a contribution of Mr. Jones of Ashton, near Bristol, twice in one day, who had maintained, with a gentleman of his acquaintance, that he could not be so deceived: in the morning, with a sooty face, leather apron, a dejected countenance, and a woollen cap, he was generously relieved, as an unfortunate blacksmith whose all had been consumed by fire. In the afternoon he exchanged his legs for crutches, his countenance was now pale and sickly, his gesture expressive of pain, his complaints lamentable, a poor unfortunate tinner, disabled from maintaining himself, a wife and seven children, by the damps and hardships he had suffered

in the mines; and so well did he paint his distress, that the disabled tinner was now as generously relieved as the unfortunate blacksmith had been in the morning.

On the death of the old king of the mendicants, named Clause Patch, Mr. Carew was one of the candidates to succeed him, and exhibited to the electors so long a list of bold and ingenious feats he had executed, and made so graceful and majestic an appearance in his person, that he had a considerable majority of voices, (though there were ten candidates for the same honor) upon which he was declared duly elected, and hailed by the whole assembly king of the mendicants; the public register of their actions being immediately committed to his care, and homage done him by all the assembly. Though Mr. Carew was now privileged, by the dignity of his office, from going out on any cruize, and was provided with every thing necessary, by the joint contribution of the community, yet he did not give up to that slow poison of the mind—indolence. He was as active as ever in his vocation, and ready to encounter any difficulties which seemed to promise success. His family and friends often proffered him a respectable maintainance, but no entreaty could

prevail on him to quit the way of life he had adopted. His various adventures have furnished matter to fill a volume; and, after a life of more than forty years spent in company with gypsies and beggars, he died, aged sixty years, in the year 1759.

## Thomas Carr.

Thomas Carr was of a family that had not only lived in affluence and respectability, but had made a considerable figure in the world; his father lived in the parish of St. Paul's, Covent-garden, and his mother was living at the time of her son's misfortune; he was well educated, and when fit for business, articled to a Mr. Walker, in Princes-street, near Covent-garden, a scrivener, or notary-public, in the aforesaid parish; this and his father's interest therein, procured him the place of vestry-clerk, which he possessed for some years, and might have lived very handsomely thereupon.

The first, and indeed the principal cause of his misfortunes, was a strong inclination to a voluptuous life; if he would have been content with a moderate subsistence, his business would very well have afforded it, without his having recourse to irregular practices; but having taken it into his head to live like a man of pleasure, he was forced to strike out of the ordinary road of life, to accomplish his pur-

THOMAS CARR,

(Executed at Tyburn 1737.)

pose. His first deviations from honesty were in the affairs of the parish; these were not found out immediately, and when they were discovered, compassion to him, and respect to his family, preserved him in that employment, until his conduct, which grew worse and worse, was at last so bad, that he was removed from his office; and thereupon broke up house-keeping, and took chambers in the Temple.

During the time he lived in Bridges-street he used to manage business at the Old Bailey, and was particularly concerned in the appeal against Clough, for the murder of his fellow-servant, at the Green Lettuce, in Holborn; who was executed thereupon, though he had been acquitted on a trial, at the suit of the king. Carr, by degrees, became acquainted with a gang of people, who were concerned in procuring evidence on particular causes, when, and wherever such assistance was necessary; to which practice, if Mr. Baron Thompson, and other worthy magistrates, had not opposed themselves, it would have grown to an enormous height. As it was, Mr. Carr had a great share in the success which, for some time, that practice met with; and though he took care not to appear so publicly in it as others did, yet his precautions did not prevent many imputa-

tions on his character; and, in consequence, was compelled to keep mostly that company which, as it brought him into the path of, so it hurryed him on to destruction. He was a person in himself capable enough of business, if he had sufficiently attended to it; but horse-races, gaming-houses, play-houses, and tavern-kitchens, were places in which he could make but small improvement, except in low wit and buffoonry; to which he addicted himself, until he became contemptible to all who were not objects of contempt themselves. His business, by this means, came to lie chiefly in trifling with just suits, negociating with bailiffs, to deceive those who employed them, and in finding means to screen fraudulent dealers behind the letter of the law.

The offence for which Carr suffered was robbing a gentleman in a brothel; the indictment charged him and Elizabeth Adams with assaulting William Quarrington in the house of Mary Prevost, widow, in the parish of St. Dunstan's in the West, putting him in corporal fear, and danger of his life, and taking from him a gold ring, set with five diamonds, value six pounds; ninety-three guineas, and eight shillings in silver. The prosecutor, it appears, had received one hundred pounds at the Bank, and

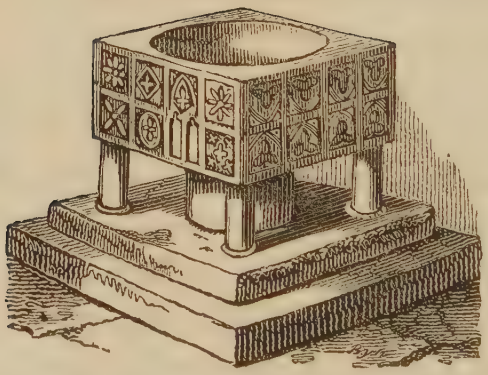
business detaining him in the city and Southwark until after nine o'clock, on his return through Fleet-street, by Temple-bar, he was accosted by a common woman, who requested him to give her a glass of wine; to which consenting, she conducted him to an infamous brothel, the Angel and Crown, the corner of Shire-lane, Temple-bar, where calling for a bottle of port, they were shewn into a room on the first floor, and the wine produced. They had not, however, been long in conversation, but the waiter entering, informed the prosecutor that he had peeped through the key-hole, and observed the female attempting to pick his pockets, and requested him to see he had his money safe; on which he counted it before the waiter and woman, and informed them it was all correct. Notwithstanding which, the waiter forced the woman out of the room, and introduced the landlady, accompanied by Mrs. Adams, the latter of whom desired him to stay in the house till the woman was quite gone. Two or three minutes after, the prosecutor went down-stairs, intending to go home; but was beckoned by Carr, who was standing at the kitchen-door; who informed him she was with a common strumpet

and pick-pocket; and prevailed on him to go into the kitchen, where Mr. Carr, Mrs. Prevost, Mrs. Adams, the two waiters, a strange man and woman, desired him to count his money once again; this he complying with, and informing them it was all right, Mr. Carr said he was glad, and called for a bottle of wine to treat him with; after which, another bottle was called for, at the expence of the prosecutor, to meet Mr. Carr's bottle, and another produced at their joint expence. It was at Carr's request the prosecutor staid all this while, as he told him it would be dangerous to go, as the woman might set somebody to knock him down; and as it was between one and two o'clock when the third bottle was out. Mr. Carr persuaded him to stay all night, saying, how dangerous it would be at that time to go out with a charge of money; to which consenting, Mr. Carr saw him up to bed, accompanied by the rest, but had not been two minutes in the room before Carr seized him by the throat with his left-hand, and with a case-knife in his right-hand, he swore he would cut his throat if he made a noise; seven people were then present, and they threw him on the floor; some of them held his legs,

and some his arms; Carr, with the assistance of the two waiters, held him down, and swore if he made the least resistance, or noise, he would cut his throat from ear to ear; then took the money out of his pockets, and ring off his finger; the money he put into the prosecutor's hat, which lay on the floor; he took ninety-three guineas, and about eight or ten shillings in silver; then gave him liberty to sit in a chair, while he saw Carr distribute his money among the people in the room; they said he seemed to be much surprized; and Carr ordered the waiter to go down for a couple of bottles of wine, from which they filled a glass nearly holding a pint, which they forced him to drink off; then a second, both filled to the brim, and part of a third; then undressed and forced him into bed, and left him, swearing if he made the least noise they would return, and cut his throat to prevent his telling tales. Mr. Quarrington lay till about nine or ten in the morning, then rose and secretly left the house; and applied to a magistrate for a warrant to apprehend the parties; but they were fled, and the house shut up; however, remembering Carr's name being mentioned in the course of the transaction, he traced him to his

chambers in the Temple, had him apprehended, and brought to trial. Upon the clearest evidence, the jury found him guilty.

He was executed at Tyburn, January, 18, 1737-8.



CORNELIUS CATON,

(Of the White Lion Richmond.)

# Cornelius Caton.

This little whimsical publican, having passed through the several gradations of pot-boy, helper in the stables, and other menial offices attached to a public inn, at length rose to the important place of principal waiter: being of a complaisant temper, and possessing a species of low wit and pleasantry, he rendered himself so acceptable to the humour of the different guests which frequented the house, as to derive considerable perquisites from his ready desire to serve and accommodate the various description of persons whom business or pleasure drew to the place.

Caton carefully treasured up the money he obtained from time to time; until he had saved a sufficient sum to enable him to take the White-Lion public-house, at Richmond, in Surry. The drollery of the landlord brought him considerable custom, which his attention to business so far improved as

to make his house the most frequented of any in Richmond; and he became a general favourite with most of the inhabitants.

In person, he was of the most grotesque appearance; and might have gained a livelihood by exhibiting himself as a dwarf; this, joined with a certain oddity of manner, rendered him so conspicuous a character, as to bring him into great notice; and Cornelius Caton, and his house, found visitors from most parts of the adjacent villages in the neighbourhood.

He was well known to many persons in London; and among others, George Bickham, the engraver, deemed him of sufficient importance to speculate on engraving and publishing his portrait. This did not tend to diminish the number of Caton's friends: and many have made a journey from town to Richmond, merely from curiosity of seeing the landlord of the White Lion.

A few years since, an equally singular personage, named Davis, a true son of Sir John Barleycorn, kept the Load-of-Hay public-house, on Haverstock-hill, near Hampstead; the eccentricity of whose personal appearance brought a considerable number

of persons, particularly on a Sunday afternoon, and made the house a place of great trade.

Cornelius Caton was living at the time of his present majesty's accession to the throne, but the print of him was engraved in the reign of King George the Second.

# Francis Charteris.

COLONEL CHARTERIS was one of those adventurers who never lose sight of a chance to increase their means, or escape an opportunity to gratify their appetite; in short, he was a gambler, a rake, a fine gentleman, and every thing but a prodigal, being extremely tenacious of parting with his money, though inordinately addicted to every voluptuous gratification. He was born in East Lothian, in the year 1666, and his father, who is said to have been a private gentleman, gave him a liberal education; and when he came to years of maturity, he was entered in the army, and served in Flanders as a cadet in a regiment of foot, then commanded by Colonel Hodges. Some disagreement, however, taking place, he quitted that regiment, and served under Colonel Brewer in the same capacity; but not obtaining any promotion, he returned to his father, who procured him an Ensign's commission in the third regiment of foot-guards, where he became acquainted with some noblemen and others of high rank in

R. Cooper f.

COL. FRANCIS CHARTERIS.

life, who introduced him to fashionable gaming-houses, race-courses, and other species of expensive pleasure. What might have been destruction to many was, to a person of Charteris's disposition, the only path to fortune, as he practised the fashionable arts with such success as to gain enormous sums of money, and soon obtained the post of an Exempt in the Life-guards, and after married a daughter of Mr. Pencaitland, one of the lords of session in Scotland, whom it appears he did not treat in a way her merit deserved. The colonel's amours were many and various, though chiefly among persons in low life, and mostly servant-maids, the knowledge of which must have greatly disgusted his lady. One of his adventures is enough to prove his parsimony, lust, and brutality. Charteris having amassed a very considerable fortune, and purchased several fine estates, some of them of the Duke of Wharton; as he was going to visit one of these new purchases, he happened to lie at an inn upon the road, where the servant who attended was mightily to his taste, insomuch, that he offered her a guinea to be his bed-fellow for that night; the girl at first gave him a repulse, and stood upon her character and reputation; but, at length, his persuasions and the guinea

prevailed; so that at night, after all was quiet in the inn, she stole into his room, and staid with him till towards day-break, when she was obliged to retire. In the morning, when the colonel got up, he called for his reckoning, which being brought by the landlord, he asked him, "Where the maid was who waited on him the night before?" The inn-keeper desired to know what he wanted with her; "Why," says the colonel, "I sent her to change a guinea, and she hath neither brought me that nor the silver." The girl being called, "Sweet-heart," cries the colonel, "where is my change out of the guinea I gave you?" She was quite confounded, blushed, and dropping a curtsey, replied, "Here is your guinea, Sir, but I could not get it changed;" and accordingly returned it, to save her credit. The colonel had no sooner secured the money, but he told the inn-keeper the whole story, and exposed the girl so, that she was forced to leave the country. This was, however, so remembered in the place, that when he came to stand candidate for member of parliament, for the borough of Lancaster, he could scarcely get a lodging in the town, much less be chosen for their representative.

He was often detected in his gaming transactions,

and sometimes got severely chastised, which his avarice and dishonesty well merited, and which he put up with, in fear of worse consequences. But the most serious affair that befel him, was his meeting with a miller's wife of Musselburgh, on the road near Edinburgh. This woman, who was a jolly likely dame, was carrying a sack of corn, which her husband had just ground, to one of his customers; and, unfortunately meeting with Charteris alone, he attacked her very vigorously; but words proving ineffectual, he drew out a purse of gold, and offered it to her to gratify his desires; this not succeeding, he pulled out a pistol, presented it to the woman's head, and swore, "That if she did not immediately lay down her sack, and afterwards lie down upon it herself, he would end her days upon the spot." In this extremity, the good dame had no alternative but to comply with his desire, or lose her life; and she no sooner got home but she acquainted her husband with the whole affair, who cited the colonel before the supreme court of judicature for a rape, which being positively sworn to by the injured woman, and Charteris not thinking it safe to appear, he was formally condemned, according to the laws of North Britain. Hereupon, he fled to London, nor durst

he return to Scotland till George the First, having the case represented to him in a favorable light, thought fit to grant him his most gracious pardon; which being presented to him on New-years-day, in the year 1722, was justly deemed by him the most welcome new-years-gift he ever received.

Notwithstanding this escape, Colonel Charteris proceeded in his old career of vice, and, if possible, in a still worse way; he constantly kept in pay procuresses, who watched the arrival of country waggons, and selected for their prey such unsuspecting females whom they thought would be acceptable victims to their employer's lust.

Hogarth, in the Harlot's Progress, plate 1st, has inimitably displayed the colonel watching the operations of one of his venerable decoys, who is in the act of treaty with a country wench newly imported. He proceeded uninterrupted in this course until Wednesday, February 25, 1729-30, when Counsellor Strange moved the court in the Old Bailey, that Colonel Francis Charteris might be permitted to surrender himself the day following to take his trial on an indictment preferred against him by Ann Bond, for committing a rape on her body. The court granting the motion, he surrendered accord-

ingly, and was brought to the bar and arraigned. Francis Charteris, of St. George, Hanover-square, Esq. was indicted, for that he, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being moved by the instigation of the devil, did, on the 10th of November last, ravish and carnally know Ann Bond, spinster, against the peace of our sovereign lord the king, and against the statute, &c. to which he pleaded—*Not guilty*. The counsel having amply set forth the manner and nature of the offence, they supported the charge by the following evidence :—

Ann Bond deposed, that being out of place, and having been ill, she happened to be sitting on a bench at her lodgings, and a woman, whom she knew not, took an occasion to enter into conversation with her, and asked her if she wanted a place, telling her she was very serviceable in helping servants to places; she replying she would willingly embrace a good service, she told her she could help her to a very good one, which was to one Colonel Harvey; that accordingly she went, and was hired, and did not know, for three days, but that the prisoner's name was Harvey. That for the three days she was treated well; that he sent his footman with her, and he redeemed some cloaths she had been

obliged to pawn; and he had also money, and orders given him to buy some linen, which, when she came home, the prisoner said she should have; but she refused to take it. That after three days, he began to solicit her to let him lie with her, offering her a purse of gold, telling her he would give her a great many fine cloaths, get her a good husband, would give her a house, having a great many, if she would go to bed with him; that she told him she would take none of his money on any account; that she came not thither for any such purpose; that if she did not do his work to his mind, he might turn her away. That afterwards, she hearing one coming to the house, and enquiring for Colonel Charteris, she spoke to the house-keeper, telling her she thought her master's name had been Harvey; that she heard a bad character of Colonel Charteris, and was not well, and must go away; she added, when I offered to go away, he threatened my life, and I was kept in, and not permitted to go out of the house, the door being kept locked; and, if the clerk of the kitchen went out, the house-keeper or the butler had the key, so that I never could get out after the three or four first days.

Being asked, what time she went to live with the

prisoner? she answered, about the 14th of October, and came away the 10th of November. That on the 10th of November the colonel rung a bell, and bid the clerk of the kitchen call the Lancashire bitch into the dining-room; that she going in, he bid her stir the fire; while she was doing it, he locked the door, and took her and threw her down on the couch, which was nigh the fire, in the farther corner of the room, and forced her down with violence, and lay with her; that she strove what she could, and cried out as loud as she could, and he took off his night-cap, and thrust it into her mouth, and then had carnal knowledge of her. That she afterwards told him, she would certainly prosecute him for the injury she had received from him, and take all lawful methods to do herself justice; that he endeavoured to pacify her with promises of a great many fine cloaths, &c. if she would hold her tongue, and say nothing of it; but she would accept of none of his offers. She added, that then he called her brimstone-bitch, and cursed and swore, and threatened he would beat her to death; and, about an hour after he had lain with her, he took a horsewhip, and beat her very much; and also beat her with the great end of it; and no servant came till he opened the door,

then the clerk of the kitchen came up, and he bid him take all she had, and turn the brimstone-bitch out of doors: that being got out of doors, she went to a gentlewoman, and made her complaint, and desired her to go with her to get her cloaths; and when they came and demanded them, he bid them turn the bitches out, and pretended I had robbed him of thirty guineas, and sometimes he said twenty. Being asked, if she complained of the colonel's usage of her? she said, she did to Mrs. Parsons that very day, and she acquainted Mr. Bliss with it, and that she preferred the bill of indictment against the prisoner; that it was drawn at first for an assault, with an intent to ravish, and that the foreman and jury, upon some questions they put to her, said, it was not an intent, but it was fact, and so the indictment was altered.

Mary Parsons, the prosecutor's evidence, being called, was asked when Ann Bond came to her and made her complaint? she answered, it was the 10th or 11th of November; she came to her in a very great surprise, said the colonel had used her very ill, and that morning he had forced her against her inclination, and she was beat across the shoulders and back, and that he had taken all her cloaths

from her; that she went with her to demand her cloaths, and the prisoner bid his servants turn the bitches out of doors. Then I told her I would take her to a gentleman who would do her justice, and this was Mr. Bliss.

Mr. Bliss deposed, that being consulted by the foregoing witnesses, and asked by the prosecutrix if she had not best apply to a justice, he told her the quarter-sessions was near, and he thought that would be the best way; and, when she came to the grand-jury, they told her that this was not an intent, but the fact; and the foreman of the grand-jury ordered two to go to Mr. Lindon, and the indictment was drawn accordingly; and one of the grand-jury said, the colonel had attempted his sister; that they went to get a certificate, but could not get it that night, and that the colonel went out of town next morning.

Sarah Colley deposed, that she washed for one of the prisoner's servants, and he seeing her, asked her if she knew of any likely country-girls that she could send for to town; but not to mention his name, and that he ordered her to go to the Crown and Wheat Sheaf, on Ludgate-hill, and to bring

one Mrs. Betty to him; but not to mention his name, and he would give her a guinea.

Colonel Charteris, in his defence, called a multitude of witnesses to invalidate the prosecutrix's testimony; but, on examination, they either proved to be his own servants or dependants, the whole of which were of so profligate a description that neither the court or jury credited their evidence; and the jury, after a full hearing, brought in their verdict guilty—DEATH.

By the intercession of the Earl of Weems, who had married his only daughter, he obtained a pardon, having first made a handsome settlement on Ann Bond for life.

Charteris did not long survive this public disgrace, dying February 24, 1731-2, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, leaving the bulk of his estate to his grandson, the second son of the Earl of Weems, and great portions to all the other children; with several legacies to friends and relations.

The wits of the time exercised their pens, in verses and epitaphs, &c. on this occasion, and a print of Colonel Francisco was published, standing at the bar, with his thumbs tied, and these verses:—

Blood! must a colonel, with a lord's estate,
Be thus obnoxious to a scoundrel's fate;
Brought to the bar, and sentenced from the bench,
Only for ravishing a country-wench?
Shall men of honor meet no more respect?
Shall their diversions thus by law be checked?
Shall they be accountable to saucy juries,
For this or t'other pleasure? hell and furies!
What man, thro' villanies, would run a course,
And ruin families without remorse,
To heap up riches,—if, when all was done,
An ignominious death he cannot shun?

The most perfect character, however, of Colonel Charteris, is preserved in the following

EPITAPH.

Here lies the body of Colonel Don Francisco, who, with an inflexible constancy, and inimitable uniformity of life, persisted, in spite of age and infirmity, in the practice of every human vice, excepting prodigality and hypocrisy; his indefatigable avarice exempting him from the first, and his matchless impudence from the latter. Nor was he more singular in that undeviating viciousness of life, than successful in accumulating wealth; having, without trust of public money, bribe, worth, service, trade, or profession, acquired, or rather created a ministerial estate. Among the singularities of his life and fortune be it likewise

commemorated, that he was the only person in his time who would cheat without the mask of honesty; who could retain his primeval meanness after being possessed of ten thousand pounds a-year, and who having done, every day of his life, something worthy of a gibbet, was once condemned to one for what he had not done. Think not, indignant reader, his life useless to mankind; providence favored, or rather connived at his execrable designs, that he might remain, to this and future ages, a conspicuous proof and example of how small estimation exorbitant wealth is held in the sight of the Almighty, by his bestowing it on the most unworthy of all the descendants of Adam.

JOHN COLLINGTON,

(Executed 1750.)

# John Collington.

JOHN COLLINGTON was born of very respectable parents in the parish of Pluckly, in the eastern division of the county of Kent. His father was a clergyman, and rector of the said parish, a living of between two and three hundred pounds per annum; and was possessed of a considerable paternal fortune in addition. He gave his son a liberal education, and when he was fourteen years of age put him apprentice to a grocer in Newgate-street; where he soon discovered such bad propensities, that he was turned over to another master, but never served out his apprenticeship.—Being arrived to man's estate, his father settled him in an old accustomed grocer's and chandler's shop, at Rye, in Sussex; but his behaviour was so very bad, in giving way to passion and revenge, that he soon lost his business, and had not trade sufficient to maintain him.—He married the only daughter of Counsellor Wheeler; who brought him so considerable a fortune, that a jointure was settled upon her of one hundred pounds per

annum. By this lady he had ten children, none of which he would suffer to be baptized, only giving them a name himself; and the six that died were buried in his own orchard, to save expence. His wife, who was as fine a woman as any in the county, he treated with the greatest barbarity, often beating her till the marks of the blows appeared; then made it a practice to lock her up-stairs, and sometimes put her down in a saw-pit he had in his orchard, which he covered over, and kept her there many days together, without any sustenance.—In one of his quarrels, meeting her on the stairs, he flung her head-foremost down, followed her, and kicked her on the breast; which turned to a cancer, and soon after occasioned her death.

On the decease of his father, he came into possession of a very considerable fortune, and went to reside at Throwleigh, where a great part of his estate lay, and there lived as a gentleman-farmer; married his second wife, with whom he had a considerable fortune, and had six children by her, four of whom were living at the time he suffered.

Collington became so arbitrary in his way, that he was a terror to his neighbours in six parishes about him, constantly poaching in other manors, though

JOHN STONE,

(Executed 1750.)

when any qualified or not qualified person came on his estate to seek for game, he would threaten to shoot them, and did shoot at people several times; at last, he became so terrible an annoyance, that the Countess Dowager of Rockingham built a house on her own waste, for a person to live in, to hinder Collington from committing depredations on her game; and curb him in his audacious and dangerous proceedings. This house or cottage very much annoyed Mr. Collington, and he employed his man Luckhurst to set it on fire for a bribe of half-a-guinea, which was accomplished without discovery.

The occasion which led to the crime for which he suffered, was the cruel treatment of his second son, a boy of but twelve years old, whom he put into a saw-pit, which he covered over, in order to starve him to death; but on his being relieved by some of the servants, he turned him out of doors, and the boy being begging about the parish, Collington was applied to, who replied, he was old enough to work for his bread, and refused to give him any assistance; upon which the parish had an order to provide for him, and Mr. Clarke, the churchwarden, took him into his house and maintained him; but upon

applying to the father for payment, and his refusing, the parish applied to a bench of justices, who granted a warrant of distress to levy upon his goods. —Collington, on this, threatened to be revenged on Mr. Clarke, and, about two months after, he hired three ruffians to force him from his house with intent to murder him; this scheme, however, happily failed, after the villains had fired at him, the one with a pistol, and another with a carbine. Mr. Clarke, having every reason to suspect Collington, applied to Thomas Knight, Esq. a neighbouring justice, for his warrant to bind Collington to keep the peace; which refusing to do, and using the justice in a scurrilous and malicious manner, he was committed to Canterbury gaol for want of sureties.

In a few days after, Mr. Clarke's barns and ricks were burnt down, by the instigation and contrivance of Collington, by William Luckhurst and John Stone, whom he had engaged for that purpose during his confinement in Canterbury gaol. Luckhurst and Stone frequently visiting Collington at the prison, they were apprehended on suspicion of being the incendiaries, at the instigation of Collington; when, upon a strict examination, Luckhurst confessed the

share he had in the mischief, and was admitted an evidence against his accomplice Stone, and their employer Collington.—The behaviour of the latter was the same while in confinement as when at liberty, declaring nothing but revenge; and threatened that when he got at liberty, which he expected as soon as the assizes were over, to be revenged of every one who was any way concerned against him, either in advising or countenancing Mr. Clarke in carrying on the prosecution.

On Monday, March 19th, 1750, being the commission-day of the assizes, John Collington was brought from Canterbury, in a coach, to Maidstone gaol; and on Wednesday, the 21st of the same month, he and his companion, John Stone, were called to the bar, where, after a trial of five hours, (on which Luckhurst the accomplice was the principal evidence) they were both found guilty! During the trial, Collington behaved so contemptuously and impudent, that the judge, and all persons present, were astonished; but his behaviour on the Friday following, when he received sentence of DEATH! was of a different kind; and he read a paper, wherein he begged pardon of the court for his ill behaviour at his trial; and begged for mercy, which, if not fully

granted, that he might be allowed a longer time than usual to prepare himself for death, and likewise to settle his worldly concerns, which would take up some time, as he had a wife and eight children.

He was executed at Maidstone, on Saturday, April 7th, 1750, aged fifty-three.

HENRY COOK,

(Executed Decr 6th 1741.)

# Henry Cook.

HENRY COOK was the son of respectable parents in Houndsditch; who, having given him a decent education, apprenticed him to a leather-cutter, and when out of his time, his father took the shop of a shoe-maker at Stratford, in Essex, in which he placed his son. Having some knowledge of the shoe-making business, he was soon well established, and married a young woman at Stratford, by whom he had three children. It was not long after his marriage, before the associating with bad company and the neglect of his business involved him so far in debt, that he was obliged to quit his house, in apprehension of bailiffs.

Among the idle acquaintance that Cook had made at Stratford, was an apothecary, named Young, who was concerned with him in robbing gardens and fish-ponds, and in stealing poultry. The persons robbed offered a reward for apprehending the offenders; and Cook having been known to sell fowls at Leaden-hall-market, a warrant was granted to take him into

custody; but having notice of it, he concealed himself two months at the house of a relation, at Grays, in Essex. During this retreat, it was determined not to execute the warrant; but Cook, learning that a bailiff at Stratford had vowed to arrest him if he could be found, he sent the officer a letter, advising him to consult his own safety, for he would blow his brains out if he should meet him. This threat effectually intimidated the bailiff; and Cook, having dissipated all his cash, went to Stratford, where he found a man so intimate with his wife, that he became enraged in the highest degree, and taking several articles of furniture with him, he went to London and sold them.

This being done, he went to the house of a relation in Shoreditch, where he was treated with civility while his money lasted; but when that was nearly gone there was no further appearance of friendship: and being now driven to extremity, he went to Moorfields, where he purchased a pair of pistols, and having procured powder and ball, went towards Newington, in his way to which he robbed a man of fifteen shillings, and returned to London. The following day he went to Finchley-common, where he stopped a gentleman, the bridle of whose horse he

seized, and ordered him to dismount, on pain of death. The rider complying, was robbed both of his money and horse; but he offered the highwayman three guineas if he would send the horse to an inn at St. Albans, which he promised to do; but afterwards finding that he had a valuable acquisition in the beast, he failed to restore him. This robbery being committed, he crossed the country to Enfield-chase; and, going to a public-house where he was known, said that he wished to hide himself, lest he should be arrested.

Having continued here two days, he proceeded to Tottenham, where he robbed a gentleman of about six pounds; and, leaving his horse at an inn in Bishopsgate-street, he went to his kinsman's in Shoreditch, where he was interrogated respecting his possessing so much money; but he would give no satisfactory answer. On the following day, he went on the St. Albans road, and, having robbed a stage-coach of eight pounds, he went to Enfield-chase, to the house he had frequented before; but while he was there he read an advertisement, in which his horse was so exactly described, that he determined to abscond: on which he went to Hadley-common, near Barnet, where he robbed a gentleman; and,

taking his horse, gave the gentleman his own. Soon after this, he went to an inn at Mims, where he saw a gentleman whom he had formerly robbed; and was so terrified by the sight of the injured party that he ran to the stable, took his horse, and galloped off with the utmost expedition. On the road between Mims and Barnet he was met by eight men on horseback, one of whom challenged the horse he rode, saying that a highwayman had stolen it from a gentleman of his acquaintance. Our adventurer replied, that he had bought the horse at the Bell at Edmonton, of which he could give convincing proofs; on which the whole company determined to attend him to that place; but when he came near Edmonton, he galloped up a lane, where he was followed by all the other parties; and finding himself in danger of being apprehended, he faced his pursuers, and, presenting a pistol, swore he would fire, unless they retreated; but some countrymen coming up at this juncture, he must have been made prisoner, only that, night advancing, he quitted his horse, and took shelter in a wood.

When he thought he might safely leave his lurking-place, he hastened to London, and, going to the house of his relation in Shoreditch, he was chal-

lenged with having committed robberies on the highway; but nothing could be learnt from the answers he gave. Having dissipated his present money, he went again to Finchley-common; but his late narrow escape made such an impression on his mind, that he suffered several persons to pass unattacked; but at length robbed an old man of his horse and five pounds, though not till after it was dark. Soon after the commission of this robbery he met a gentleman, whom he obliged to change horses with him; but in a few minutes afterwards, the gentleman was stopped by the owner of the stolen horse, who said a highwayman had just robbed him of it. Enraged at this, the gentleman swore the place was infested with thieves: however, he delivered the horse, and walked to London.

Cook, riding to his old place of resort near the Chace, remained there three days; but seeing the horse he had last stolen advertised, he rode off, in fear of discovery: but had not proceeded far, before he was seized by the owner of the horse, and three other persons, who conducted him to Newgate. At the next Old-Bailey sessions he was indicted for stealing this horse, but acquitted, because the owner would not swear to his person. Soon after his discharge,

he returned to his former practices, but his affairs with his creditors having been by this time adjusted by his friends, he lived at Stratford with his wife, and committed his depredations chiefly on Epping-forest.—Having acquired a booty of thirty pounds, he shewed it to a journeyman he kept, named Taylor, and asked him how he might employ it to the best advantage in buying leather: Taylor, guessing how it had been obtained, offered to go partners with his master in committing robberies on the highway; and the contract was instantly made.

They now stopped a great number of coaches on the borders of the forest; but acted with such an uncommon degree of caution, that they were for a long time unsuspected; but the neighbours being terrified by such repeated outrages on the public peace, a Captain Mawley took a place in the basket of the Colchester coach to make discoveries: when Cook and Taylor coming up to demand the money of the passengers, Taylor was shot through the head; on which Cook ran to the captain, and robbed him of his money, on threats of instant death. The carriage driving on, Cook began to search his deceased companion for his money; but some of the neighbours coming up, he retired behind a hedge to listen

to their conversation; and, having found that some of them knew the deceased, and intimated that he had been accompanied by Cook, he crossed the fields to London.—Having spent three days in riot and dissipation, he went to his relation in Shoreditch, whom he requested to go to Stratford, to enquire the situation of affairs there. When his relation returned, he told him there were several warrants issued against him, and advised him to go to sea. This he promised to do, but instead thereof, he bought a horse, and rode to Brentwood, in Essex; where he heard little conversation but of Cook, the famous highwayman of Stratford: and on the next day he followed a coach from the inn where he had put up, and took about thirty pounds from the passengers.

He now connected himself with a gang of desperate highwaymen in London, in conjunction with whom he stopped a coach near Bow, in which were some young gentlemen from a boarding-school. A Mr. Cruikshanks riding up at this instant, one of the gang demanded his money; but as he hesitated to deliver it, another of them knocked him down, and killed him on the spot; after which the robbers went to a public-house near Hackney-marsh, and divided the spoils of the evening.—Cook continued

but a short time with this gang; but, going to a house at Newington-green, sent for a woman with whom he had cohabited; who threatened to have him apprehended, unless he would give her some money; and though he had but little in his possession, he gave her a guinea, and promised her a farther sum, lest she should carry her threats into execution. Oppressed in mind, and particularly by reflecting on the murder of Mr. Cruikshanks, he went to St. Albans, where he assumed a new name, and worked as a journeyman shoe-maker for about three weeks; when a highwayman being pursued through the town, the terrors of his conscience on the occasion were such that he hastily left the shop, and ran across the country, towards Woburn, in Bedfordshire. In his way to Woburn, he robbed a farmer of fifty pounds and his horse; and bade him sue the county. The farmer soon raised the hue and cry; but Cook escaped for the present; and riding as far as Birmingham, took lodgings at a public-house, and disposed of his horse. He now took the name of Stevens; and the landlord of the house where he lodged telling him that there was a shop to let, he took it; and entered into business as a shoe-maker; and hired a Mrs. Barrett as his house-

keeper; but she soon became his more intimate companion: and, accompanying him to horse-races and other places of public diversion, his little money was soon exhausted. Thus situated, he told his housekeeper that he had an aunt in Hertfordshire, who allowed him a hundred per annum, which he received in quarterly payments; and that he would go to her for his money. Under this pretence, he left her; and went to Northampton, and from thence to Dunstable; near which place he robbed a farmer of his horse, and sixteen pounds; and then rode to Daventry.

At this last place he met with a Manchester-dealer, going home from London; and having spent the evening together, they travelled in company next day, and dined at Coventry. Cook, having an intention of robbing his fellow-traveller, intimated that it would be proper to conceal their money, as they had a dangerous road to travel; and, putting his own money in his boot, the other put a purse of gold into his side-pocket. Prosecuting their journey till they came to a cross-road, Cook demanded his companion's money, on pain of immediate death: and, having robbed him of thirty-five guineas, travelled immediately to Birmingham; and Mrs.

Barrett imagined he had been supplied by his aunt, agreeable to what he had before told her.

He now carried on trade as usual; but as often as he was distressed for money, he used to have recourse to the road; and recruited his pockets by robbing the stages. At length, a London trader coming to Birmingham, asked Cook how long he had lived there; which terrified him so much, that he quitted the place, and travelled towards London; and near Highgate robbed a gentleman, named Zachary, of his horse and money. On this stolen horse he rode to Epping-forest on the following day; and having robbed a gentleman, returned to London by the way of Stratford, at which place he spoke to a number of his old acquaintance; but was not imprudent enough to quit his horse.

Going to a house he had frequented at Newington-green, he sent for his relation who lived near Shoreditch; who advised him to make his escape, or he would certainly be taken into custody. On this he went to Mims; and his relation visiting him, Cook begged he would sell five watches for him; but the other declined it, recommending him to dispose of them himself in London. On the following evening, when it was almost dark, he rode towards

town, and observing a chaise behind him, permitted it to pass, and followed it to the descent of the hill towards Holloway. There were two gentlemen in the chaise, whose money Cook demanded: but, instead of complying, they drove on the faster; on which he fired, and wounded one of them in the arm: the report of the pistol bringing some people towards the spot, he gallopped off, and went to Mims, his old place of retreat.

Coming to London next day, to sell his watches, he was seen in Cheapside by a woman who knew him, and followed him to Norton-Falgate, where observing him to go into a public-house, she went and procured a constable, who took him into custody and found on him five watches, and about nine pounds in money. On his examination before a magistrate, Mr. Zachary (whom he had robbed near Highgate) swearing to the identity of his person, he was committed to Newgate: but not before he had offered to become evidence against some accomplices he pretended to have had; but this offer was rejected. He now formed a scheme to murder the keepers, and to make his escape: but, being detected, he was confined to the cells; and, being brought to his trial at the Old-Bailey, was capitally convicted. After sen-

tence of death, he for some time affected a gaiety of behaviour; but when the warrant for his execution arrived, he was so struck with the idea of his approaching fate, that it occasioned convulsive fits, and he never afterwards recovered his health or spirits.

He was hanged at Tyburn, on the 6th of December, 1741.

JOHN COUSTOS,

(Free Mason.)

# John Coustos.

JOHN COUSTOS was a native of *Berne* in *Switzerland*, and a lapidary by profession. In 1716, his father came with his whole family to London; and, as he proposed to settle in England, got himself naturalized there.

The younger Coustos, after living twenty-two years in London, went, at the solicitation of a friend, to *Paris*, in order to work in the galleries of the *Louvre*. Five years after, he quitted France, and removed to *Lisbon*, in hopes of finding an opportunity of going to *Brazil*, where he imagined he should make a fortune; but the King of Portugal, whom he addressed in order to obtain permission for that purpose, being informed of his profession, and his skill in diamonds, by the advice of his council refused the petition, thinking it impolitic to send a foreigner, who was a lapidary, into a country abounding with immense treasures, whose value the Portuguese government endeavour, by all means, to conceal, even from the inhabitants.

While Coustos was waiting an answer to his petition, he became acquainted with several substantial jewellers, and other persons of credit, who made him liberal offers in case he would settle in *Lisbon*, which he accepted, after having lost every hope of going to Brazil. Being a free-mason, he constantly attended a lodge, that was alternately kept at the private houses of chosen friends, where they used to dine together, and practice the secrets of free-masonry. Among other friends, Coustos had one with whom he was particularly intimate, Mr. *Alexander James Mouton*, a diamond-cutter, born in Paris, and a *Romanist*. He had been settled as a housekeeper six years in Lisbon, where his integrity, skill, and conduct, were such as gained him the approbation of all to whom he was known.

As neither Coustos, nor his friend *Mouton*, knew the extent of danger they ran in, in the event of these masonic assemblies coming to the knowledge of the inquisition, they were not so guarded in their private meetings as to escape suspicion, and a zealous lady, at confession, made disclosure of one that was, in her opinion, of monsters in nature, who only met to perpetrate the most shocking crimes.

This discovery was not thrown away on the

vigilant officers of the inquisition. A jeweller and goldsmith, who was a familiar of the holy-office, sent a friend, (a free-mason also,) to Mr. Mouton, upon pretence that he wanted to speak with him, about mending a diamond weighing four carats. They agreed upon the price; but as this was merely an artifice of the familiar, to know the person of *Mouton*, he put him off for two days, on the pretence that he must first enquire of the owner whether he approved of the demand. Coustos happened to be at that time with his friend, a circumstance which gave the highest joy to the jeweller; finding that he had got a sight, at one and the same time, of the very two free-masons whom the inquisitors were determined to seize; Coustos being the master of a lodge, and *Mouton* the warden. Two days having elapsed, *Mouton* went alone to get the diamond, and being inveigled into a back-shop, was seized by five officers of the inquisition, and conveyed a prisoner to the dungeons of that institution.

*Coustos* escaped their hands for four days, but was at last betrayed by a pretended Portuguese friend, who was engaged by the holy-office closely to observe him. He was seized going out of a coffee-house, with two friends, but the officers only secured

him, on the pretence of having passed his word for the diamond *Mouton* had run away with, and that he must have been an accomplice; they immediately took away his sword, hand-cuffed him, forced him into a chaise drawn by two mules; and hurried him away to the prison of the inquisition, where, after seizing all the gold, silver, paper, knives, scissars, buckles, &c. he had about him, they led him to a lonely dungeon, expressly forbidding him to speak loud, or knock at the walls; but that, in case he wanted any thing, to beat at the door, with a padlock, that hung on the outward entrance, which he could reach, by thrusting his arm through the iron-grates. In this situation he passed a whole day and two nights, in terrors impossible to describe, heightened, at every little interval, by the dismal cries and hollow groans of other prisoners, which the solemn silence of the night made infinitely more appalling.

On his first examination before the president of the inquisition, *Coustos* acknowledged himself to be in religion a Protestant, on which he was charged with drawing away Roman Catholics, of other nations, residing in Lisbon, contrary to the pope's injunction against masonry; to this he an-

swered, that a free-mason, who professed the Romish religion, was, he presumed, the only man fit to seduce and draw away others of the same persuasion with himself, and remove such scruples as might arise in their minds, both with regard to the injurious reports spread concerning masonry, and the pope's excommunication; of which a vile heretic entertained an idea far different from that of the *Romanists.*

Finding argument and remonstrances to be of no avail, the inquisitors insisted *Coustos* should let them into the secrets of masonry, threatening him with torture in case of refusal; this, likewise, having no effect, they proceeded to put their threats in execution. This was done by his being seized on by six miscreants in human shape, who, after preparing their instruments, stripped him naked to his linen drawers, then laying him on his back, they placed round his neck an iron collar, which was fastened to the scaffold; they then fixed a ring to each foot, and wound two ropes round each arm and two round each thigh, which ropes passed under the scaffold, through holes made for that purpose, and were all drawn tight at the sam time, by four men, on receiving an appointed signa

These ropes, which were of the size of a man's little finger, pierced through his flesh, quite to the bone; but, as *Coustos* persisted in refusing to discover more of his secrets than had transpired in his several examinations, the ropes were thus drawn together four different times. At his side stood a physician and a surgeon, who often felt his temples, to judge of the danger he might be in, and to have his tortures suspended, in order to recover him sufficiently to undergo more.

Two months after, being a little recovered, he was again conveyed to the torture-room, and there made to endure another kind of punishment. His tormentors turned twice round his body, a thick iron chain, which, crossing his stomach, terminated at his wrists; and placing his back against a board, with a pully at each extremity, through which there run a rope, that caught the ends of the chains. These ropes, stretched by means of a roller, pressed or bruised his stomach, in proportion as they were drawn tighter. On this occasion they tortured him to such a degree, that his wrists and shoulders were put out of joint.

Notwithstanding all these trials, *Coustos* underwent them with the greatest constancy and resolution,

and was remanded back to his dungeon, attended by the surgeons, who dressed his bruises; and here he continued until their *Auto de Fé*, or gaol-delivery. The day of the *Auto de Fé* being come, he was made to walk in the procession, with the other victims of this tribunal, to St. Dominic's church, where his sentence was read, by which he was condemned to the galley during four years.

As he had suffered greatly in his body, by the tortures that had been inflicted on him, he was quite unfit to go about the painful labour that was allotted him, viz.: the carrying of water (an hundred pounds weight) to the prisons of the city; yet he so much exerted himself beyond his strength, as to bring on a fit of sickness, and was sent to the infirmary, where he continued two months, during which time he procured a friend to write to his brother, informing him of his situation and sufferings. This brother, living in the family of Lord Harrington, made the case known to his lordship, who influenced the Duke of Newcastle to cause *Coustos* to be claimed as a British subject; and, in consequence, Mr. Compton, the British minister at *Lisbon*, formally demanded his liberation from the King of Portugal, which being

complied with, he obtained his release the latter end of October, 1744; after being kept in restraint upwards of a year and a half. His friend Mr. *Mouton* obtaining his release about the same time, accompanied him in the same ship, which reached London the 15th of December, 1744, after a long and dangerous voyage.

In 1746, *Coustos* published an account of his sufferings, to which is prefixed his portrait, and plates of the cruelties practised on him.

# CRAZY CROW,

(Porter to the Playhouse in Dublin.)

# Crow,

PORTER TO THE PLAY-HOUSE IN DUBLIN.

With look ferocious, and with beer replete,
See crazy Crow beneath his minstrel weight,
His voice as frightful as great Ætna's roar,
(Which spreads its horrors to the distant shore,)
Equally hideous with his well-known face
Murders each ear till whisky makes it cease.

Crow was one of those appendages to the theatre that are constantly in requisition to carry messages, light fires, and render themselves useful to the manager, prompter, and the performers in general; and, notwithstanding his dissonant voice, and ferocious aspect, he contrived to keep his post, and gain a comfortable livelihood; independent of a regular salary, he, from time to time, picked up considerable sums of money by messages, and carrying to and from the theatre the instruments of the musicians.

He is represented in the print with a violin in his right hand, a trumpet in his left, a French-horn round his neck, a bass-viol on his back, and a pair of drum-sticks stuck in his girdle. In the London

theatres employment is found for two or three persons throughout the season, to convey the calls for rehearsals to the different performers, from one end of the town to the other; and, in case of the indisposition of a principal performer, one of these mercuries is dispatched in every direction to ferret out a sufficient substitute. West, formerly footman to Baddeley the comedian, and Applebee, that was to have accompanied Arnold in his aërial tour, are the present persons who conduct the calls of Drury-lane theatre, and pick up many stray shillings and half-crowns from the performers on several occasional services they render them. Crow, Porter to the Irish play-house, lived about the middle of the reign of George the Second.

WILLIAM DEWELL

# William Dewell.

WILLIAM DEWELL, a young man of low connections, and vicious propensities, in company with several others, of equal depravity with himself, committed a rape on a poor woman, in a barn at Acton, and afterwards treated her in so cruel a manner as to occasion her death. Dewell, being particularly identified as the principal in this affair, was brought to trial, found guilty, and ordered for execution at Tyburn, on November 24, 1740. After hanging the customary time, he was cut down, and conveyed to Surgeon's-hall, in order to be dissected. Being stripped and laid on a board, one of the attendants proceeded to wash the body, in order to its preparation for the surgeons to operate on, but, during the process, symptoms of returning life appearing, and the breath coming quicker and quicker, a surgeon was immediately procured, who bled, and took several ounces of blood from him; and in about two hours' time, he was so far recovered

as to be able to sit up in a chair, though speechless, and apparently in great agony. He was kept at Surgeon's-hall till twelve o'clock that night, and the sheriffs (who were sent for on this extraordinary occasion) attending, he was conveyed to Newgate; the day following he was in good health, eat his victuals heartily, and asked for his mother.

Public curiosity was greatly excited on this occasion, and great numbers of people daily flocked to see and question him concerning the sensations he felt during the first moments of his suspension, and subsequent return to life. This curiosity was productive of considerable profit to the culprit, as well as to the keepers of the prison. Dewell lay in Newgate until the following sessions, when he was brought up, in order to be proved the identical person ordered for execution on the above day. The extraordinary circumstance of the case operated so far in mitigation of his former sentence, that it was commuted to transportation for life; and he was, in consequence, so disposed of.

A still more remarkable case than Dewell's occurred in the year 1650. When Anne Green was tried at Oxford, before Serjeant Umpton Croke, for the murder of her bastard-child, and by him

sentenced to be hanged; which sentence was accordingly executed on the 14th day of December, in the Castle-yard, Oxford, where she hung about half-an-hour, being pulled by the legs, and struck on the breast by divers of her friends; and, after all, had several strokes given her on the stomach with the butt-end of a musket. Being cut down she was put into a coffin, and carried to a house to be dissected; where, when they opened the coffin, notwithstanding the rope remained closely drawn round her neck, they perceived her breast rise; whereupon one Mason, a taylor, intending an act of humanity, stamped on her breast and belly; and one Oran, a soldier, struck her with the butt-end of his musket. After all this, when Sir William Petty, Dr. Willis, and Mr. Clarke, came to prepare the body for dissection, they perceived some small rattling in her throat, and began to use means for her recovery; in which they were so successful, that, within fourteen hours she began to speak, and the next day talked and prayed very heartily. Nor did the humanity of the doctors stop, till, by obtaining a pardon for her, they secured that life which their skill had restored.

She was afterwards married, had three children, lived in good repute among her neighbours at Steeple-barton, and died in 1659. What was most remarkable, and distinguished the hand of Providence in her recovery, she was found to be innocent of the crime for which she suffered; and it appeared the child had never been alive, but came from her spontaneously, four months after conception.

DOLLY OF THE CHOP HOUSE.

## Dolly, of the Chop-house.

THE Chop-house in Queen's-head-passage, Paternoster-row and Newgate-street, is indebted to this woman for its original institution; she kept it with great success for many years, but we are not informed whether she realized sufficient means to retire on, or continued in the possession until her death. We are, however, certain, that the reputation of its celebrity for superior accommodations has induced all her subsequent successors still to preserve her name, to distinguish it from the many rival Chop-houses which have been set up within its immediate vicinity and neighbourhood; and Dolly's Chop-house is, to the present time, as much known and frequented, and perhaps more so, than at its first establishment. This woman was artful enough to engage none but smart waiters, handsome female servants, and an attractive and obliging bar-maid, to assist her in the necessary concerns of her business; this failed not to draw custom, and in a degree softened the displeasure of her well-known extortion;

and many an alderman and wealthy citizen were satisfied to pay double for their chop, or basin of soup, to be waited on, and gratified with the sight of Dolly's fascinating female attendants. One gentleman, in particular, was so much noticed for his constant attendance, and of being waited on but by one of these lovely lasses, that a wit wrote a copy of verses on the occasion, and a printseller considered it worth while to have a print engraved, representing the interior of the Chop-house, with the following title:—

THE LONDON ALDERMAN'S TASTE; OR, PRETTY SALLY OF THE CHOP-HOUSE.

The address of a gentleman whose inclinations induced him to taste her commodities.

Dear Sally, emblem of thy Chop-house ware,
As broth reviving, and as white bread fair;
As small beer grateful, and as pepper strong;
As beef-steak tender, as fresh pot-herbs young;
As sharp as knife, and piercing as a fork,
Soft as new butter, white as fairest pork;
Sweet as young mutton, brisk as bottled beer;
Smooth as is oil, juicy as cucumber,
And bright as cruet void of vinegar.
O Sally! could I turn, and shift my love,
With the same skill that you your steaks can move,
My heart, thus cook'd, might prove a Chop-house feast,
And you alone should be the welcome guest.

But dearest Sal! the flames that you impart,
Like chop on grid-iron, broil my tender heart;
Which, if thy kindly helping hand been't nigh,
Must, like an unturn'd chop, hiss, burn and fry;
And must at last, thou scorcher of my soul,
Shrink, and become an undistinguish'd coal.

Sally, no doubt, took pity on the love-sick alderman; and received in return all the civic honors such an admirer might have in his power to confer on her.

A late celebrated nobleman is said to have been so much attracted by the beauty of a bar-maid at one of our principal coffee-houses, that he formed a connection, the fruits of which were a numerous offspring, for which his lordship made a very handsome provision.

# Stephen Duck.

STEPHEN DUCK was born about the beginning of the last century, and received originally no other education than what enabled him to read and write English, together with a slight knowledge of arithmetic. About his fourteenth year he was taken from school, and afterwards successively engaged in the several lowest employments of a country life, which lasted so long, that he had almost forgot all the arithmetic he had learned at school. However, he read sometimes, and thought oftener: he had a certain longing after knowledge; and even when he reflected within himself on his want of education, he began to be particularly uneasy that he should have forgot any portion of what he had learned, even at his little school. He thought of this so often, that, at last, he resolved to try his own strength; and, if possible, to recover his arithmetic again.

He was then about twenty-four years of age, was married, and in employ: he had little time to spare:

STEPHEN DUCK.

neither books, nor money to get any; but used to work more than other day-labourers, by which means he got some little matter added to his pay. This overplus was at his own disposal; and with this he bought first a book of vulgar arithmetic, then one of decimal, and a third of measuring land; of all which, by degrees, he made himself a tolerable master, in those hours he could steal from sleep, after the labours of the day. He had, it seems, one dear friend, who joined with him in this literary pursuit; and with whom he used to talk and read when they could devote a little time for it. This friend had been in employment, at London, for two or three years; and had an inclination to books as well as Stephen Duck. He had purchased some, and brought them down into the country; and Stephen had always the use of his little library, which in time was increased to two or three dozen of books. "Perhaps," says his historian, Mr. Spence, "you would be willing to know what books their little library consisted of. I need not mention those of arithmetic again, nor his bible. Milton, the Spectators, and Seneca, were his first favourites; Telemachus, with another piece by the same hand, and Addison's Defence of Christianity,

his next. They had an English Dictionary, and a sort of English Grammar; an Ovid of long standing with them; a Bysshe's Art of Poetry, of later acquisition; Seneca's Morals; Josephus, in folio; and one volume of Shakspeare's Plays, formed the whole of their collection.—Besides these, Stephen had read three or four other plays; some of Epictetus, Waller, Dryden's Virgil, Prior, Hudibras, Tom Browne, and the London Spy."

With these helps Stephen became something of a poet, and partly a philosopher. He had from his infancy a cast towards poetry, as appeared from several little circumstances; but what gave him a higher taste for it, than he hitherto had, was Milton's Paradise Lost. This he read over twice or thrice with a dictionary, before he could understand the language of it thoroughly; and this, with a sort of English Grammar he had, is said to have been of the greatest use to him. It was his friend that helped him to the Spectators; which, as he himself owned, improved his understanding more than any thing. The pieces of poetry scattered in those papers assisted his natural bent that way; and made him willing to try whether he could not do something like them.

He sometimes turned his own thoughts into verse, while he was at work; and at last began to venture those thoughts a little upon paper. The thing took air; and Stephen, who had the name of a scholar among the country people, was said now to be able to write verses also. By these attempts one after another, he became known to the clergyman in the neighbourhood, who, upon examining him, seeing that he had a great deal of merit, made him some presents, and encouraged him to go on.

At length some of his essays falling into the hands of a lady of quality, who attended on Queen Caroline, he became known to her Majesty, who took him under her protection; and settled on him a yearly pension, supposed to be of thirty pounds. It was such, however, as was sufficient to maintain him independently of labour. This, Duck very gratefully acknowledges in the dedication of his poems to the queen. Dean Swift, in one of his splenetic humours, wrote the following quibbling epigram on the occasion;—

The thrasher Duck could o'er the Queen prevail;
The proverb says, "No fence against a flail."
From thrashing corn he turns to thrash his brains,
For which her Majesty allows him grains.

Though 'tis confess'd, that those who ever saw
His poems, think them all not worth a straw.
Thrice happy Duck, employed in thrashing stubble!
Thy toil is lessen'd, and thy profits double.

In 1733, the queen made him a yeoman of the guard; from which situation, by a singular and very absurd transition, he was admitted into orders, and preferred to the living of Byfleet, in Surrey.

The only qualification he possessed for this office, was a slight knowledge of latin, though by no means sufficient to justify such an abuse of church patronage. Before this he was appointed keeper of the queen's select library at Richmond, called Merlin's Cave, where he had apartments, which were continued to his daughter after his decease. Here and at Byfleet he continued for many years to make poems and sermons; and was much followed by the people as a preacher, till, falling into a depressed and melancholy humour, he flung himself into the Thames, from a bridge near Reading, and was drowned. This unhappy accident, for he was perfectly lunatic, befell him in March or April, 1756. It was thought that his despondency proceeded from a notion that he had not been sufficiently provided for; and, if so, his injudicious patrons must have flattered him into

a very false estimate of his merit. But such was the taste of the courtiers of Queen Caroline, that they actually wished to set up this poor versifier as a rival to Pope; and it was beneath such a man as Spence to persuade poor Duck that he merited the higher rewards of genius!

# Owen Farrel,

## AN IRISH DWARF.

THIS extraordinary person was born in the county of Cavan, in Ireland, of parents in a very humble path of life; and, in the year 1716, went to live in the capacity of footman, with a colonel in Dublin. He distinguished himself on many occasions by his amazing strength; which circumstance, joined to his diminutive stature, induced him, at the persuasion of others, to exhibit himself as a show; and was conveyed from place to place for that purpose. This resource not succeeding, he came to London; but, however strong, he was of too lazy a disposition to work; and subsisted merely by begging about the streets. His singular appearance, and uncouth manners, attracted the notice of every beholder; children were frightened, and dogs snarled at him, as he passed them in the streets; and he excited the surprise and wonder of all whom

OWEN FARREL,

(The Irish Dwarf.)

he accidentally encountered. He was but three feet nine inches in height, heavy and clumsily made; and so surprisingly strong, that he could carry four men, two sitting astride on each arm; and display other astonishing proofs of his strength. He used to carry a stout staff nearly as high as himself, a fragment of a hat held out to beg, his garb ragged and dirty, holes in his stockings, and his toes protruding through his shoes. Some time before his death, he sold his body to Mr. Omrod, a surgeon, for a weekly allowance; who, after his death, made a skeleton of his bones, which was first placed in the museum of his grace the Duke of Richmond, and at present is preserved in that of the late Dr. William Hunter, at the University of Glasgow.*

One William Jinkins, a bellows-mender, made a similar agreement with Mr. John Hunter, who gave him a sum of money, on the condition of having his body after death. This man was generally supposed to have been an hermaphrodite;

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* In the same collection is a fine painting of Owen Farrel, in a leathern jerkin, who was mostly known by the name of leather-coat Jack.

but though imperfect as a male, he did not partake of the female; he had no bladder, and died in St. Martin's Watch-house, December 31st, 1790. At the contested election for Westminster, between Lord Hood, Sir Cecil Wray, and Charles James Fox, Esq. he is said to have polled three times in one day, in various disguises, for the unpopular candidate.

Owen Farrel died nearly in the year 1742, about which time his portrait, after Gravelot, by Hulett, was published.

Laurence Shirley. Earl Ferrers.
Audran Sculp.

# Laurence Shirley,

## EARL FERRERS.

LAURENCE, EARL FERRERS, Viscount Tamworth, was descended from a very honorable and ancient family, many of whose branches have been recorded in history, by distinguishing themselves for their virtues, loyalty, and valor. The highest honor appertained to them as representatives in parliament, sheriffs, or some post or other of great consequence and trust. This unfortunate and unhappy man, in his youth, took to drinking; and liquor had always such an effect on him, as to make him commit the greatest outrages, which he often carried to acts of brutality. When sober he was very sensible; but in his cups the most confirmed madman breathing.

In the year 1752, he married the youngest daughter of Sir William Meredith, but treated her with such repeated acts of cruelty, though of the most amiable disposition, that she was obliged to apply

to parliament for redress; and obtained an act, about two years before he committed the deed that caused his execution, for a separate maintenance, to be raised out of his estates. Intoxication was not his only vice; for he would lay schemes when sober, and execute them when drunk; for instance, in the year 1756, he was at the races at Derby, and ran a mare against one Captain M——'s horse, for fifty pounds. After the races were ended, his lordship spent the evening with some gentlemen. In the midst of their jollity, the captain (who had heard of Lord Ferrers' mare being with foal) offered, in a jocose manner, to run his horse against his lordship's mare, at seven months end; Lord Ferrers took this ill, thinking a scheme was laid against him, flew into a rage, which occasioned a quarrel, and his lordship left Derby at three o'clock the next morning, to go to Stanton Harold, in Leicestershire; and on his arrival immediately went to bed. Early in the morning he rang his bell; and, as soon as the servant entered the room, he asked if he knew how Captain M—— came to be informed that his mare was with foal, by which he had like to have been drawn in for another wager? The servant declared his ignorance of the affair, and that he could not account for

it, unless it came from the mouth of his lordship's groom; who, on being sent for, denied the fact.

Lord Ferrers had, previous to the quarrel, engaged the captain, and other gentlemen, to dine with him as that day, and he sent a servant to remind them of their promise; but, on account of the dispute that had happened, they all refused to attend. This nettled his lordship greatly: and, in revenge, he abused his servants, used them in a cruel and brutal manner, kicked some, horse-whipped others, and threw every thing at their heads that came in his way.

Another instance of his brutal behaviour was, that having sent to London for some oysters, which did not prove very good, he ordered one of his servants to make oath that the carrier had changed them; but the servant replied, he would take no such oath; on which the Earl flew in a violent rage, suddenly stabbed him in the breast with a knife, cut his head with the base of a candlestick, and gave him many severe kicks on the body.

His lordship's brother with his wife paid a visit to him and the Countess at Stanton Harold; and, unfortunately, they had a dispute; on which the Earl ran up stairs with a large clasp-knife in his hand,

and meeting one of the servants, asked him where his lady was; and being informed in her own room, he ordered the servant to follow him there, which he had no sooner done, than he directed him to load a brace of pistols with bullets: the servant obeyed, but, fearful of mischief, put no priming, which the Earl soon discovered, and cursing him, asked for the powder, and primed them himself. Now, says he to the servant, if you do not go and shoot the captain, my brother, directly, I will blow your brains out. The servant hesitated, when his lordship snapped one of the pistols at him, but it happily missed fire. The countess, who was in the room all the time, fell on her knees, entreating of him to be more composed; but he, in return for her good advice, damned her, and swore bitterly, if she interposed, or interrupted him, he would blow out her brains. The servant made his escape out of the room, and informed the captain of the Earl's intent; on which the captain went to his lady, who was gone to bed, entreated her to dress herself; and they set off about two o'clock in the morning.

The unfortunate Mr. Johnson, who fell a sa-

crifice to the rage of his lordship, was bred up in the family of the Ferrers' from his youth, and was always remarkable for his regular accounts; and, when the act of parliament passed for the separation of his lordship and his countess, Mr. Johnson was proposed as a receiver, on the behalf of the lady; but he refused it, till he was requested by his lordship. Notwithstanding the consent given by his lordship, and at a time when Mr. Johnson stood well in his favor, yet it soon kindled into resentment; for his lordship quickly shewed that his good opinion was converted into malice.

The first instance of the Earl's displeasure was his sending a notice to Mr. Johnson, to quit a beneficial farm which he enjoyed under his lordship; but Mr. Johnson producing a lease, previously obtained from the trustees, the Earl desisted. This disappointment, added to a suspicion that Johnson had entered into an agreement with Messrs. Burslem and Cursan, to disappoint him of a certain contract for coal-mines, preyed so on his lordship's mind, that he fixed a resolution of destroying him. His lordship concealed his resentment in such a manner, by affable behaviour, that Johnson thought he was again his friend.

On Sunday, the 13th of January, 1760, his lordship called on Mr. Johnson at his house, and appointed him to come to his seat at Stanton, on the Friday following, between three and four in the evening. In the interval, the Earl took care that at the time Mr. Johnson was expected, the house should be as empty as possible; his two men-servants, being all his lordship kept of that sex, were sent out of the way; and, at three, Mrs. Clifford, and the four children, were ordered to walk to her father's, about two miles from Stanton, so that only three maid-servants were in the house at the time appointed for this meeting. Mr. Johnson was punctual to his promise, repaired to Stanton, and was let in by one of the maids. After waiting some time, his lordship called him into his apartment, immediately locked the door, and soon after shot him with a pistol, of which wound he afterwards died. As soon as his lordship had committed this cruel action, he called the maid-servants, and ordered them to lead Mr. Johnson up-stairs, and put him to bed; thinking, as he was not killed on the spot, there were hopes of his recovery. He also sent a servant for one Mr. Kirkland, a surgeon, and another for Mr. Johnson's children, pursuant

to the request of the dying man, who earnestly desired to see them. When Mr. Kirkland arrived at Stanton Harold, his lordship requested him to take all possible care of Mr. Johnson; and insisted that Mr. Johnson should not be removed out of the house. When Mr. Kirkland had examined the wound, his lordship asked him what hopes of his recovery; the surgeon, though he knew the wound was mortal, being well acquainted with the Earl's disposition, thought it most advisable to flatter his lordship, lest he should share the same fate with Mr. Johnson. But, conscious that Mr. Johnson could not survive twenty-four hours, being of a weak constitution, he took an opportunity, as soon as the Earl was gone to bed, to remove the poor man out of the house; and, with the assistance of six men, he conveyed him to his own home, where they arrived about two in the morning; and at nine he died. As soon as Mr. Johnson was in his own house, Mr. Kirkland, well knowing that he was a dying man, left him to the care of his family, and went away to get a sufficient number of armed men to secure his lordship. When they arrived at Stanton Harold, his lordship had just got up, and was walking towards the stables with his

garters in his hand; but, as soon as he saw the posse, he fled to his house, and shifted himself from place to place in such a manner, that they could not secure him till near six. They then conveyed him to Leicester gaol, where an order soon arrived to lodge his lordship in the Tower of London; and as soon as the scaffolding could be prepared in Westminster-hall, he was brought there, tried by his peers, found guilty of wilful murder on the body of Mr. Johnson, and, on the 5th of May following, was ordered for execution.

He thought it a great disgrace to his family to be hanged at Tyburn, and petitioned his majesty to alter the sentence and place of execution; but the king, to shew he would make no distinction between a peer of the realm and the meanest of his subjects, who should commit the act of murder, ordered the sentence pronounced by the Lord High Steward to be carried into execution; and, accordingly, on the 5th of May, the day fixed on, his lordship was executed at Tyburn.

On the way to the place of execution, (to which he went in his own landau) observing the great concourse of people, he asked the sheriff, (Mr. Vaillant) if he had ever observed so many people

collected on a similar occasion; and, upon his answering in the negative, he rejoined, "I suppose it is because they never saw a lord hanged before." He then observed, that he had written to his majesty to request that he might suffer within the walls of the Tower of London, as his noble ancestor, the Earl of Essex, had done, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; a favor he entertained great hopes of obtaining, as he had the honor of quartering the same arms, and of being allied to his majesty; adding, that he thought it was hard to die at the place appointed for the execution of common felons. With respect to Mr. Johnson's death, his lordship said he was under particular circumstances, and had met with so many crosses and vexations, that he scarce knew what he did; and solemnly protested he had not the least malice against him.

In the way his lordship expressed his desire of having a glass of wine and water; but, on Mr. Vaillant's observing, that his stopping would draw a greater crowd about him, he immediately replied, "that's true, I say no more, let us by no means stop."

A little before his lordship's leaving the Tower, he is said to have written the following lines; and

that he was proceeding, when he was interrupted by one of the wardens who attended him :—

> " In doubt I live, in doubt I die,
> Yet undismay'd the vast abyss I'll try,
> And plunge into eternity.
> Through rugged paths———"

He had often expressed himself in the following manner :—" I date my misfortunes from the day of my marriage ;" and, when the day of execution arrived, he took out a white suit, richly embroidered with silver, and said, " this is the suit in which I was married, and in which I will die." On approaching the place of execution, near which his mistress waited in a coach, his lordship observed, that he should be glad to take his last leave of a person for whom he had a sincere regard ; the sheriff remonstrated, lest the sight of her should unman him, and disarm him of the fortitude he possessed. The weight of this reason the Earl very readily acknowledged ; and, without hesitation, mildly replied, " If you, Sir, think I am wrong, I submit." Upon Mr. Vaillant's offering to deliver any thing he should intrust with him for her use, he gave a pocket-book, enclosing a bank-note, a ring,

and a purse of guineas, to deliver to her; which he afterwards fulfilled.

His lordship's passage from the Tower to Tyburn, took up almost three hours; and when he reached the place of execution, it was about a quarter before twelve o'clock: a large party of horse-grenadiers and foot surrounded the gallows, which was covered with black baize; as also a square scaffold, that was erected and railed round it. His lordship walked up the stairs with great composure and fortitude, with his hat in his hand; when, after a pause of a few moments, the Rev. Mr. Humphries asked, if he chose to join in prayer? but this he declined; upon which the chaplain asked him, if he would join with him in saying the Lord's Prayer? he readily assented, observing, he always thought it a fine prayer. They therefore kneeled down, on two cushions covered with black baize; when his lordship, with an audible voice, repeated the Lord's Prayer, and afterwards, with great energy, cried "O God, forgive me all my errors, pardon all my sins!" Then rising, he took leave of the sheriffs and chaplain, thanking them for the civility they had shewn him; and made Mr. Vaillant a present of his watch.

His lordship then (by mistake) gave five guineas to the executioner's assistant; which was immediately demanded by the master, but the fellow refused to deliver it; and a dispute ensued, which might have discomposed his lordship, had not Mr. Vaillant instantly silenced them.

The executioner then proceeding to do his duty, his lordship submitted with resignation. His neck-cloth being taken off, a white cap, which his lordship brought in his pocket, was put on his head; his arms were secured with a black sash, and the halter, which was a common one, was put round his neck. He then mounted a part of the scaffold, raised eighteen inches higher than the rest; and the signal being given by the sheriff, that part of the floor sunk under him to a level with the rest, and he remained suspended in the air. He struggled for a few moments, but was soon dispatched by the pressure of the executioner; and, having hung an hour and five minutes the body was cut down. The shell being raised, it was dropped into it, and carried by the men to the hearse; after which it was conveyed by the sheriffs to Surgeons'-hall, to undergo the remainder of the sentence.

His lordship was only about eight minutes on the scaffold before his execution; he stood, to all appearance, unconcerned at the approach of death; and, without the least change of countenance, or faultering of his voice, viewed the awful preparations for depriving him of life. The spectators, struck with the novelty of seeing a peer of Great Britain in such a situation, doomed to death for the dreadful crime of murder, and suffering like a common malefactor, for taking the life of one of their own rank, beheld him with a respectful silence, mixed with pity; and, while they commiserated his fate, almost forgot his crime. The body was brought from Tyburn, in a coffin lined with white satin; his hat and the halter lay at the feet; and upon the lid was a plate with these words, "Laurence, Earl Ferrers, suffered May 5, 1760."

The surgeons made a large incision from the neck to the bottom of the thorax or breast, and another across the throat: the abdomen was laid open, and the bowels taken out. Upon this occasion the surgeons declared, that the entrails were remarkably sound; and that, in their whole practice, they never saw in any subject so great signs of long life.

His lordship, during his confinement, reflecting on

the injury he had done Mr. Johnson's family, left them a large sum of money at his death; and strove as much as possible to repair the faults he had committed, by giving handsome sums to those whom, in the heat of passion, he had injured.

MARGARET FINCH,

(Queen of the Gypsies at Norwood.)

# Margaret Finch,

## QUEEN OF THE GIPSIES.

THE environs of London, and parts adjacent, have been pestered with gipsies for upwards of a century past; but Surry and Kent have been more inconvenienced and plundered than any other counties throughout the kingdom. The neighbourhood of Norwood and Shooter's-hill appear, with this class of society, to have been privileged places; where unmolested they presumed to abide, with no laws to regulate their conduct, but such as they made for themselves, or approved of. Until within these few years Norwood was their court and head-quarters; and here they assembled from all parts, to render obeisance and homage to their reigning sovereign. Like the Egyptians of old, they are not governed by the law *Salique*, and still continue faithfully to observe the mandates of their modern *Cleopatras*. The most remarkable was Margaret Finch, born at Sutton, in Kent; who, after traversing the whole

of England, in the double capacity of gipsy and thief, finally fixed her place of residence at Norwood. About eleven years prior to her decease, she adopted a habit, and afterwards a constant custom, of sitting on the ground with her chin resting on her knees, which caused her sinews to become so contracted, that she could not extend herself or change her position; so that when she died it was necessary to force her body into a box, made sizeable to her usual posture: she was thus conveyed, in a hearse, accompanied by two coaches, to Beckingham, in Kent, and there decently interred, in the year 1740, a funeral sermon being preached on the occasion; the expence of which was defrayed by the neighbouring publicans about Norwood and Beckingham. The singularity of her figure, and the fame of her fortune-telling, drew a vast concourse of persons from the highest rank and quality to that of the lowest class in life. Norwood, and the roads leading to it, on a fine Sunday, resembled the scene of a fair; and, with the greatest difficulty only, could a seat or a mug of beer be obtained, at the place generally called the Gipsy-house. This trade was of too profitable a description easily to be given up; and a new queen was speedily introduced, no way behind

her predecessor in fraud and cunning. Again did the fortune-telling and thieving profession proceed successfully hand in hand; the publicans encouraged the callings of both, from the grist it brought to their own mills; and the neighbours were fearful of making complaints in dread, of the consequence. About thirty years since, the gipsy tribe visibly decreased near Norwood; and, since the murder of Matthews, the Dulwich hermit, it is a rarity to meet with a single straggler of that description.

## Captain Samuel Goodere.

Captain Samuel Goodere was next brother and heir to Sir John Dinely Goodhere, an Herefordshire baronet, whom a relation, possessed of a very plentiful fortune, and residing near Evesham, in Worcestershire, made his inheritor, on condition that he should add, to his own, the surname of Dinely; for which purpose he accordingly obtained an act of parliament. On the death of Sir Edward and of Mr. Dinely, Sir John, to whom the title of baronet devolved in right of his father, came in for the possession of a large estate, when his parent's, and that for which he changed his name, were incorporated. Sir John, when about the age of twenty-three, married a young lady, the daughter of a merchant, with a fortune of 20,000*l*. But it so happened, some years after, through domestic wrangles, that Sir Robert Jasen, a neighbouring baronet, coming rather frequently to visit Sir John, was suspected of too great familiarity with Lady Dinely. Sir John's suspicions were raised to such a degree, that he forbid Sir Robert

## SAMUEL GOODERE,

(Executed for Murder 1741.)

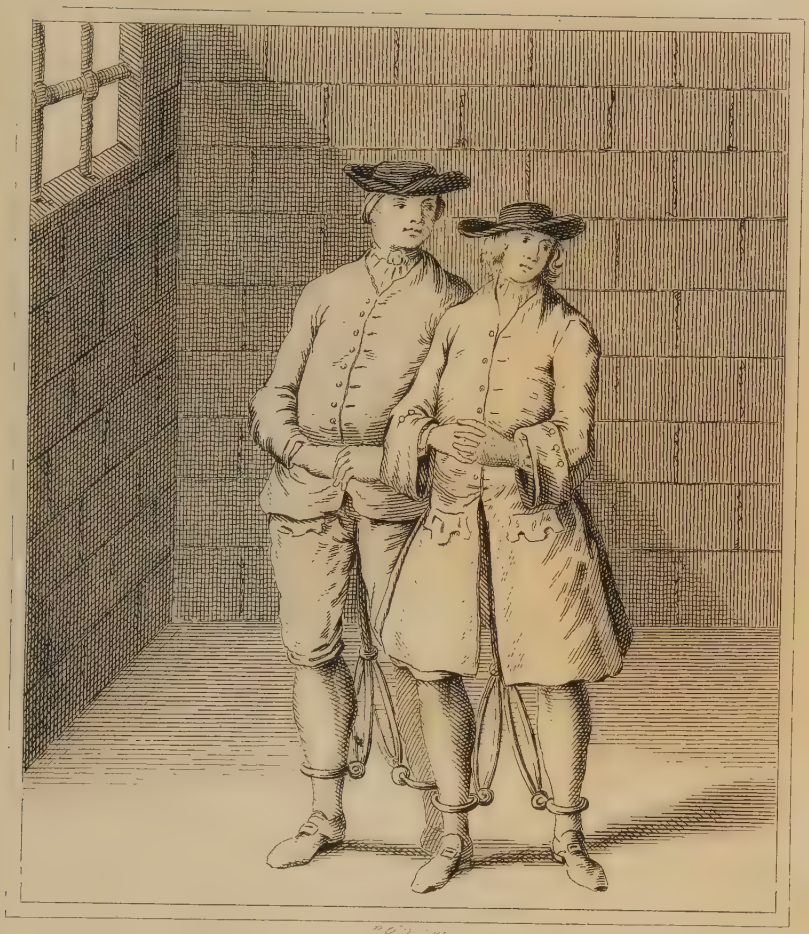
his house. The consequence of this was, that Sir John brought an action in the Court of Common Pleas, at Westminster, for criminal conversation, and laid his damages at 2000*l.*; the jury, however, returned a verdict for 500*l.*

Sir John, after this, indicted his lady for a conspiracy to take away his life; and, by the evidence of a servant-maid, the lady was found guilty, committed to the King's-bench prison for twelve months, and ordered to pay a trifling penalty. While she remained in prison, he petitioned for a divorce; but she, being assisted with money by Captain Goodere, and other friends, opposed it so strongly, that the House of Lords was of opinion that it could not be granted; and so dismissed the petition.

The captain's view in furnishing the distressed lady with money, as he himself afterwards told Sir John, was, that he should not marry a young woman, and beget an heir to his estate. This was one of the principal motives that induced Sir John to leave the greatest part of his estate to his sister's sons.

The knowledge of this bequest, and the injury Captain Goodere apprehended Sir John had done him, in cutting off the entail of his estate, except 600*l.* per annum, which he could not meddle with, rankled

in his mind, and drove him to such desperation that he formed the diabolical and unnatural design of seeking his brother's life. Understanding that Sir John was to dine with Mr. Smith, an attorney, in College-green, Bristol, Captain Goodere went into the neighbourhood, and sent for Mr. Smith, earnestly requesting to be introduced into the company of his brother, in order to attempt a reconciliation of their differences, and to be restored to an amicable and fraternal feeling. Pleased with such a commission, Mr. Smith readily assented. The brothers met, apparently as good friends as ever, and took leave of each other in the most affectionate manner possible.—In the mean while, Captain Goodere, who had the command of his Majesty's ship Ruby, then lying at Bristol, ordered a part of his crew on-shore, to obey his instructions; and, after providing a dinner for six of the party at the White-hart inn, on College-green, he ordered them to remain in a balcony, and observe a signal that would be given to secure and carry on-board a person he should point out. About six o'clock in the evening the signal was made by the captain; and his gang left the White-hart, and overtook Sir John, just before he came to College-green Coffee-house, where they seized him at the command



MATT.Y MAHONEY, & CHAS WHITE.

of their captain.—They then dragged him towards a rope-walk, where another party, consisting of twelve men, was waiting in order to receive their captain's directions. Sir John was immediately conveyed towards the Hot-wells, to a boat that was waiting purposely to receive him. The captain was with them all the time, directing and assisting; and when Sir John cried out, "Murder! murder! I am Sir John Dinely Goodere!" the captain stopped his mouth with his cloak, so that the passengers not knowing his name, only inquired what was the matter? The answer the captain and his ruffians gave was, that he, Sir John, was a thief and a murderer; and had made his escape from the ship; and that they were securing him in order for his trial; the captain still stopping Sir John's mouth, to prevent a discovery.

When Sir John got into the boat, he had a little more liberty than before; and, being no longer controlled, addressed the captain to this effect: "Brother, I know you have an intention to murder me; I beg that if you are resolved to do it, that you would do it here, and not give yourself the trouble of taking me down to your ship." To which the captain replied, "No, brother, I am going to prevent you rotting upon land; but, however, I would have you make

your peace with God this night." When Sir John was put on-board the Ruby, he cried loudly for help, and endeavoured by clamour to attract attention; but the captain took the precaution to tell the crew, "That they need not mind his noise, because he was mad; and that he had brought him on-board, purposely to prevent his making away with himself." They then conveyed him to the purser's cabin, and all of them, except Mahony and White, were ordered ashore, with directions to conceal themselves and keep out of the way of inquiry.

Mr. Smith (the gentleman at whose house Sir John Dinely Goodere, and his brother Captain Goodere, spent a social hour together the day before) accidentally heard that evening, that a person, who had the appearance of a gentleman, was hurried in a very violent manner over College-green; and that another, who by the description of him answered to the person of the captain, assisted; and Mr. Smith knowing the ship was to sail the first fair wind, remembering that they went out of the house nearly together, he instantly conceived that the captain had taken him on-board, with an intent to destroy him when he came upon the high seas. This suspicion being strengthened by other circumstances, made so deep an impres-

sion on his mind, that early in the morning he applied to Henry Combe, Esq. the mayor, for an officer to go and search the ship, before she sailed out of the liberty of the city, which reaches ten or fifteen miles down the river. The officer, the mayor thought fit to send, was the water-bailiff, with proper assistance, and full orders to search the ship for Sir John Dinely Goodere, Bart. On reaching the vessel, the cooper, his wife, and Lieutenant Berry, acquainted him, that they had been consulting about the affair, and disclosed what they had discovered; the captain being then in his cabin. The water-bailiff sent immediately this account to the city magistrates, who deemed it advisable to reinforce him with a strong guard to secure the captain; but, before the guard arrived, Goodere and his guilty coadjutors were apprehended by the cooper and lieutenant.

At the sessions held for the city of Bristol, March 26th, 1741, Samuel Goodere, Matthew Mahony, and Charles White, were separately indicted for the actual murder of the said Sir John Dinely Goodere, Bart. Mr. Berry, the first lieutenant of the prisoner's ship, deposed, that being on-deck he saw the deceased brought on-board late in the evening on the 23d of January last. The deceased was immediately carried

into the purser's cabin, and there kept till five o'clock in the morning. That the prisoners, Goodere, White, and Mahony, were with the deceased. That he saw the prisoners and deceased through a crevice in a room adjoining the purser's cabin. That the deponent and the cooper of the ship, with his wife, were together; and, by means of the crevice, saw the whole transaction. The agreement between Goodere, White, and Mahony was, that Mahony should have 200*l.*, White 150*l.*, and what money the deceased had in his pockets, with his gold watch. After the compact was concluded on, Mahony and White went about their bloody work, the prisoner Goodere standing sentry with his drawn sword in one hand, and a pistol in the other, to kill the first that should make any opposition to them. They first took a handkerchief out of the deceased's pocket; White held his hands, while Mahony put it about his neck, and then each of them pulled as hard as he could, in order to strangle the deceased at once; but Sir John making a desperate struggle, the prisoners could not effect it, so as to prevent his crying out "Murder! for God's sake don't kill me; take all I have, but save my life: dear brother! What! Must I die? Help! help! Murder!" &c. To prevent any further noise, the prisoner

Goodere ordered Mahony to take a cord he had laid ready. The prisoner Mahony then slipped off the handkerchief, and put the cord about the deceased's neck, which cord had a noose at the end; then holding the cord in one hand, thrust the other in the deceased's throat, and his knee against his stomach. In the mean while White held the deceased's hands, and took out of his pocket eight guineas and a gold watch; and, coming directly after to the prisoner Goodere, acquainted him with what was done; and shewed him his brother's watch and money. The prisoner then asked Mahony and White whether the job was quite completed? They answered, yes. Then the prisoner gave Mahony and White what money he had about him; and desired them to get ashore instantly, that they might more easily make their escape before it was day-light.

Mr. Jones, the cooper of the ship, and his wife confirmed the evidence of the lieutenant; and Mr. Ford deposed, that he had Mahony under cure for a disease for three weeks, when he told him he had a private job to do for Captain Goodere, for which he was to have 200*l.*; and then he would reward him handsomely for his trouble.

Charles Bryant being called, deposed, that he was

one of the six men hired by Captain Goodere to seize the deceased, and forcibly to run him aboard the Ruby man of war, then lying in King-road; and that he and the other five had a guinea a head; and did not belong to the Ruby, but to the Vernon schooner.

Captain Goodere, by way of defence, said, it was a very hard case, and a great hardship on an innocent man, who, because his brother had been killed, must, right or wrong, be the murderer. He was innocent of the fact, and had no hand in the murder laid to his charge. His brother was a lunatic, and, in a fit of frenzy, strangled himself, which he said he could prove by his witnesses; and calling one Sarah Gettings, she deposed that the deceased was mad by turns, and very often attempted to make away with himself. One Ann Gettings swore, that the deceased had been a long time subject to strange whims and frenzies, and often talked of shooting, drowning, and strangling himself.

The jury, without the slightest hesitation, found the whole three guilty; and in pursuance of their sentence Captain Goodere, Mahony, and White were executed, and hung in chains to the north of the Hot-wells, in sight of the place where the ship lay when the murder was committed.

Mr WILLIAM GROVES.

# William Groves.

William Groves, with the character of being the very essence of a good fellow, and a friend to every mortal but himself, was, however, prudent enough to take care of the main chance; and look sufficiently at home to secure the pleasure and comfort of his life in an ever-flowing bowl.—Punch was his favourite liquor, and in the reputation of preparing that celebrated mixture, was in his time equal, at least, with the famous Ashley, who set up the first regular punch-house in London, on Ludgate-hill. Like him too, Mr. Groves aimed to turn this commodity to advantage; and, to that end, commenced the calling of a publican. Though he condescended to deal in other liquors, yet his punch was famed above the rest of his choice viands; and a club was formed at his house, under the title of the "Honourable Society of Non-common Pleas," of which he was elected president; and became the first grand master!—The fame and reputation of this club gave rise to similar

assemblies, and the NON-COMMON PLEAS was followed by the OLD CODGERS, the ODD FELLOWS, and other eccentric societies. The NON-COMMON PLEAS club brought Groves into such notice, that in 1734 two portraits of him were engraved and published by P. Fremont and J. Williams; under the last of which is inscribed MR. WILLIAM GROVES, member of the honorable society of NON-COMMON PLEAS, with the following lines:—

Non-common Groves; Grand Master of the Rolls,
The prince of topers, and of merry souls;
An utter enemy to sordid pelf;
And friend to every mortal but himself:
Give him a flowing bowl to take his swill
Hang care—'twill kill a cat, cries honest Will.

# JAMES HALL,

(Executed for Murder, 1741.)

# James Hall.

James Hall was the son of very respectable parents, living at Wells, in Hampshire, who gave him a good education in reading, writing, and accompts, sufficient to qualify him for any mercantile, or other business; but James, being of a roving temper, and not liking confinement, came to London, to live servant to a mealman. He married a woman who, he said, was not a person of the best character; however, they lived together some years, and had several children, none of whom arrived to maturity. At length, they had so many disputes and quarrels with each other, that neither of them enjoyed a moment's peace, so that they mutually agreed to part; and, accordingly, made a formal separation. After a few years he married another wife, who visited him occasionally while under sentence, and brought with her their little daughter of two years and a half old. Hall had been servant to John Penny, Esq. principal of Clement's-inn, upwards of seven years, when he committed an act that preserves his name in biography for

detestation and horror, and the history of his fate as a dreadful example to the abandoned. His master, being a single gentleman, lived in his chambers in Clement's-inn, and had nobody with him but Hall, whom he treated with every indulgence and kindness.

He pretended not to be so vicious as many such unfortunate beings are; though he certainly had great failings, and had been much given to women. Owing some small debts, not exceeding (as he said) five or six pounds, and having other little incumbrances he knew not easily to get rid of, the devil put it into his head to murder his kind master. For this purpose, he provided a big stick or club, which he hid for several days under his master's bed. He had resolved on this long before he could find an opportunity to put it in execution; and followed him several times, for the accomplishment of his design, though his heart failed him. At last the power of his evil monitor prevailed, and he perpetrated this dreadful scene of villany and barbarity in the following cruel manner, on his old and worthy master, who was then between sixty-seven and sixty-eight years of age.

The old gentleman had been out the 17th day of

June, 1741, on some business; and came home about eleven o'clock at night; his constant custom was to sit in an outer room till bed time. About twelve, Mr. Penny being undressed, rose to go from the outer room to his bed-chamber; and, as he walked along, this monster came behind him, and, with the afore-mentioned big stick or club, as stated by himself (though the indictment called it a bar of iron,) he cruelly struck the old gentleman on the hinder part of his head, which, fracturing his skull, brought him to the ground without uttering a word. This caused no cessation of his barbarity, for, after redoubling the blow, and having fully dispatched his victim, he then cut his throat from ear to ear, and suffered the blood to pass completely from the body. To prevent discovery, he artfully mixed water with the blood, which, putting into the chamber-pot, that it might not coagulate, threw it down through a grate into a sink before the door; then, having stripped both the dead body and himself stark-naked, to prevent any spots of blood being seen upon his cloaths, carried his master's corpse upon his naked back round the garden, and threw it into the privy. Some of the blood was spilt upon the floor, which Hall endeavoured to wipe off, but

in vain; neither could the woman who washed the chambers remove it.

After this dreadful scene was over, he kept possession of his murdered master's chambers, and went to the coffee-house as usual for his master's breakfast:—the deceased being missed, his friends and relations began to be very uneasy about him; they enquired every where both in town and country, but to no purpose. At last it was thought proper to search the privy, where the body was found, having lain there ten or eleven days. Hall was taken up on suspicion; but, being apprehended just as July sessions began, his trial was deferred until the next, when he was, upon his own confession, convicted. James Hall and John Stevens, alias Henry Cooke, (tried and convicted the same sessions) being on the master's side of Newgate, and knowing how desperate their cases were, meditated an escape; and, by the assistance of a country butcher at Hadley, who brought them pistols and a hanger, they were in hopes of effecting it. Mr. Akerman, a fellow-prisoner, discovering their purpose, acquainted Jonathan the turnkey, and being about twelve at night, rushed in upon them, took two pistols from Cooke, and confined the delinquents in one of the cells. Next

day the butcher, coming again with more tools, was taken and put into the condemned hold. Hall, after this attempt, finding no possibility of escaping, confessed the whole of his guilt, on Sunday, August 23d, to a friend; and, on the Tuesday following, related the same to the relations of the deceased, stating, that the murder and robbery was entirely his own contrivance, and that his wife was wholly innocent. She had been taken up on suspicion, in consequence of a woman having sworn that she saw her go out of the inn the next morning with bloody linen in her apron; this proved afterwards to be improbable, by Hall confessing that he himself threw them into a particular place in the privy, where they were found; however, she was, before that confession, admitted to bail on five hundred pounds security.

Hall was an obstreperous, ill-natured, sullen man, much inclined to women, drinking, and gaming, for which his good master often reproved and admonished him to abandon. While under sentence he behaved quietly, and professed penitence; but seemed a little too hard-hearted and indifferent. Though he confessed the murder, he would not own having stolen more than a purse with thirty-

six guineas, notwithstanding a great deal more in cash, and two diamond-rings, the whole amounting to a considerable sum, was missing, but which was certainly some time after his execution found in his master's chambers. Hall was a man of good sense; and could converse very well, though he made a bad use of his knowledge. He went to church sometimes, and, on one occasion, received the sacrament from a friend of his worthy master's. Being asked, why he pleaded guilty, and did not stand trial? he replied, it was to discharge his conscience, and save his innocent wife, who might, perhaps, upon a positive oath, have been convicted, though she knew nothing of the matter, nor was in any manner implicated.

He seemed mightily affected that his body should be hung in chains, and exposed to open view for many years after death. But being reminded of the heinousness of his crime; and, that there was a more important consideration, the salvation of his soul, which lives when the body is no more, he then seemed more composed. On Wednesday, the 9th of September, when the death-warrant was brought to Newgate, Hall was entreated, in a tender manner, to make good use of the few moments that remained

to him, and to implore of God pardon for his sins; at which time he seemed much mollified, and almost wept. This was the first instance of his being observed to be tender-hearted, or much affected.

It was rumoured that he had been in the habit of going several nights into his master's room very late, when he was in bed, with a lighted candle, and of looking in his face, and retiring on being asked what he wanted; also, that his master had been advised by many friends, (who noticing for some time past the moroseness of his man,) to make a new strong bolt for the chamber-door on the inside: the questions, on being put to him, he absolutely denied, and dismissed them as idle reports, observing, that he never knew his master to entertain the least suspicion of him.

He was executed at the end of Catherine-street, in the Strand, on Monday, September 14, 1741.

Mrs. Hall, having good friends, they set her up in the business of a haberdasher, which she carried on with great success; and was much respected by all who knew her, from her uniform good conduct. She kept a house and shop in Piccadilly, near the Haymarket, where she was living so late as the year 1778.

# Hester Hammerton.

We very often find women take upon themselves occupations inconsistent to their sex, and only befitting man. Of such was Hester Hammerton. She was born at Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, and baptized there, March 16, 1711. Her father, Abraham Hammerton, was for many years sexton and grave-digger to the parish; and in the latter employment was occasionally assisted by his daughter. On the 2d of March, 1730, a dreadful accident happened, in which Hester nearly lost her life. Herself and father, with Thomas German, Hammerton's son-in-law, were preparing a grave for the remains of a Mr. George Hammond, of London, in the ancient chapel of St. Mary, adjoining to the south side of the church; but digging too near one of the main pillars, the whole chapel fell down, and buried them in the ruins. By this accident, Abraham Hammerton, Richard Milles, and Sarah Smith, were killed on the spot. Hester and her brother-in-law were covered in the grave by the rubbish; and, after lying seven hours

# ESTHER HAMMERTON,

(Female Sexton.)

in this dismal situation, were, to the astonishment of every one who witnessed the scene, dug out alive, but very severely injured. The former survived the accident sixteen years, and the latter forty-three; dying at Kingston, April, 1773, aged 68.

The death of Hester's father caused a vacancy for the office of sexton, which she succeeded to immediately on her recovery from the effects of the accident. She was a woman of a strong and robust constitution, of a good countenance and complexion; but at the time the chapel fell on her, she received a hurt which prevented her ever afterwards from wearing stays. Her usual dress, in consequence, was a man's waistcoat and hat, a long loose gown, and a silk-handkerchief tied round her neck; but on Sundays and holidays she would dress extremely neat and clean, in a gown of the best fashion, a mob-cap, with frilled border, gay ribbons, and a nosegay in her bosom.

She studiously avoided every sort of female employment; but was particularly partial to all kinds of manly sports and pastimes, as cricket, foot-ball, bull-baiting, sliding, skaiting, &c.; frequenting most of the country-clubs, and joining in the smoaking, drinking, and singing, of every convivial party she entered. She ever associated herself to the company of men;

but preserved her moral character wholly unimpeached. If any person offered to take the least liberty with her, she never failed highly to resent the affront, and with her fist inflicted summary chastisement on the offender. She possessed great bodily strength, would dig all the graves, and ring the great bell herself. Her resolution and strength were exerted on an occasion that would without question have greatly terrified any woman possessed of less nerve than herself.

Philip Wilkinson and William Sweet went from London to Kingston, with an intent to rob the church of the communion-plate; but not succeeding in this design, they took the opportunity, after the Sunday-morning service, to conceal themselves in the church, and began to rip off the gold-lace and fringe that was on the pulpit hangings. Hester Hammerton, at that instant coming into the church to ring the two o'clock bell, surprised them in the midst of their work, and resolutely made up to one of them, whom she seized by the collar, and threw him over the reading-desk into a pew below: the other advanced to the rescue of his associate, and gave her so violent a blow on the head that she fell stunned to the ground.

A short time after, a strange boy was seen lurking about the town, and being taken up and examined,

was threatened to be sent to prison, if he did not directly give a good account of himself. The boy being frightened, said, that if they would not send him to prison, he would acquaint them who robbed the church; and then gave information where Wilkinson and Sweet were to be found. They were both taken in consequence of this information, and tried at the next Kingston assizes, found guilty, and executed in the market-place, on Thursday, the 10th of April, 1735. They both declared their innocence to the last moment. One of them was a Roman Catholic, and had a priest to attend him. Hopkins Switzer, a locksmith in the town, made oath, in the Town-hall, that on Tuesday evening, the 8th of April, 1735, William Sweet (then in prison) sent for him, and acknowledged that he was in the church when it was robbed; but that Wilkinson, his companion, carried off the gold-lace. Sweet was in hopes of a reprieve, and charged Switzer not to divulge this confession till he (Sweet) was dead.

The bodies of the above two men, after execution, were carried into the Castle-inn yard, and no particular account was given of them afterwards. A christian burial was refused them, on account of the crime of sacrilege, of which they had been convicted; and it

was not till above seventy years afterwards that a discovery was made, which seems to clear up this matter. On the 25th of August, 1807, as some workmen were digging a hole in the garden of Mr. John Smallpiece, a butcher, near Clattern-bridge, the skeletons of two men lying together were discovered:—these were conjectured to be the remains of Wilkinson and Sweet. The garden in which they were found was formerly a bowling-green, and belonged to the Castle-inn, at the time when the bodies of those two men were left in the yard; and there is no reason to doubt, as it was generally so supposed, that such was their place of interment.

Hester Hammerton continued in the office of sexton and grave-digger, at Kingston, until her death, which happened on the 28th of February, 1746, in the thirty-fifth year of her age. She was buried in Kingston Church-yard.

rious falsehood; and that he had been persuaded by several persons to swear against him. Bad habits and profligate company brought this young offender to ruin; and it is a well-known truth, that in some young minds the spirit of inflexibility is so strongly implanted, as to resist and contemn every effort and advice to correct and reform a turbulent and self-willed spirit.—John Hanna was executed on Kennington Common, September 14, 1739, aged only twenty years.

JACK HAUGH,

(alias Mill Cushin.)

# Jack Haugh,

## ALIAS MILL CUSHIN.

JACK HAUGH, otherwise called *Mill Cushin*, was a native of Ireland, and born at Mount Mellich, in the county of Dublin. In what manner he was educated, or how brought up, no particulars are recorded. It is, however, certain that when he attained the state of manhood, he could find or chose no other employment than perambulating the streets of Dublin to pick up a precarious subsistence: there was something of appearance in his manner, between a knave and a fool; but the former had the greatest preponderance. He was blind of one eye, had a large bottle-nose, and was eternally on the broad grin. It was his usual custom to walk the streets with a stout piece of shillelah in one hand, and a kind of cap in the other, soliciting money from almost every person he met; and was never at a loss for a pleasant story or miserable tale, describing the necessity he was

under of paying a rapacious landlord or landlady, to prevent his passing the night under a *bulk* in the streets.

The Irish are celebrated for genuine hospitality, and boundless acts of charity; and *Mill Cushin* did not feel inclined to let either their charity or hospitality lie dormant a single day. He affected a singularity of appearance, which he found answered his purpose in attracting general notice; and he contrived to lay the Irish public under contribution sufficient to afford him a maintenance at least equal to his ambition.

MATTHEW HENDERSON,

( Convicted of Murder, 1746. )

# Matthew Henderson.

MATTHEW HENDERSON was born at North Berwick, in Scotland; and was nineteen years of age when he committed the barbarous act for which he deservedly suffered. His father, who was counted a very honest industrious man, gave him the best education his circumstances allowed; and, until this offence, the character of the son was free from reproach. His mother had been dead several years, which he mentioned with satisfaction, because he said she loved him tenderly, and he believed this affair would have broken her heart. He had lived in the family of Sir Hew Dalrymple five years; during which time he was treated with the greatest humanity, both by his master and mistress, and much respected by all the servants. On the 24th of March, 1746, about eleven at night, Mary Platt, the servant, told him, she would go and see her husband. She went, and took the key to let herself in again. He shut the door after her, and cleaned some plate in the kitchen; from thence he went

to the back-parlour, where he was accustomed to lie, and let down his bed in order to go to sleep. Preparing himself for rest, by taking off his shoes, and tying up his hair with his garter, he that moment imbibed the idea of destroying his lady. He went down-stairs into the kitchen, and taking a small iron cleaver, came into his bed-chamber again, and sat down on his bed about twenty minutes, considering whether he should commit the murder. His heart relented, and he thought he could not do it, but at last resolved to perform the deed, as no other person was in the house save the lady and himself. Going up to the first landing-place on the stairs, and, after tarrying a minute or two, he came down, shocked at the thought of the crime he was about to perpetrate. He sat on the bed for a little while, and then went up as far as the dining-room, but again remorse checked his guilty purpose, and he returned to his bed, almost determined not to commit the murder. The watchman was calling past twelve o'clock, when Henderson had proceeded again as far as the first window: all was now silent, the watchman had passed the house and was no longer heard. Henderson, having the cleaver all the time in his hand, came down two or three steps, but pre-

sently went up as far as the lady's room-door, which he entered; but again his resolution failed him. Terror and remorse arrested his hand, and he left the room as far as the stair-head, about three yards from her chamber-door; but immediately returned, with a full determination to murder her. He entered the chamber a second time, went to the bed-side, undrew the curtains, and found she was fast asleep. Twice he went from the bed to the door in great perplexity of mind, the deceased being still asleep. He had no candle, and believes if there had been a light he could not have committed the murder. With great trepidation he felt where she laid, and made twelve or fourteen motions with the cleaver before he struck her.

The first blow missed, but the second struck her on the head, and she endeavoured to get out of bed on the side next the door; he then repeated it, when she moved to the other side of the bed, and spoke several words, which he could not remember. He struck successively, and, in struggling, she fell out of the bed next the window, when he thought it was time to put her out of her misery, and aimed a blow at her with all his might, as she lay on the floor. She bled very much, and the curtains

were cut in several places with the stroke of the weapon. All the words she said, when he struck her the third or fourth blow, were "O Lord, what is this!" She rattled in her throat greatly, and he was so affrighted that he ran down-stairs, and threw the chopping-knife down the privy. He then went into his bed-chamber, and sat down on the bed for about ten minutes, when it came into his head to rob the house, which he solemnly declares he had no intention of doing when he committed the murder. Having determined to do so, he directly struck a light, went into the deceased's bed-chamber, and took her pockets, as they were hanging on the chair, also a gold-watch and two diamond-rings, out of the drawers, with several other articles; but does not remember all the particulars. She was not then dead, but rattled very much in the throat, and he was so alarmed that the horrors of a guilty conscience became more forcible. When he had taken what he thought proper, he went out at the street-door, and fastened it with a piece of cord; and, on entering the street, he was so terrified that he could scarcely walk. He proceeded to Holborn, where his wife lodged; and, as he went, the vision of his murdered lady was constantly before him.

The watchman was crying past two o'clock, as he walked along Holborn, so that he had been nearly a full hour in committing this horrid deed. He put what things he had taken into a box, at his wife's lodging, who asked what he did there at that time of night, and several other questions; to all which he answered, it was no business of hers. He solemnly declared, his wife, and every other person, was entirely innocent and ignorant of the fact. He did not stay here more than a quarter of an hour, and then returned to his master's; but, by endeavouring to break the string, with which he had fastened the door, he shut himself out, so that he was obliged to wait till the maid came home, then about six o'clock; and, in pretext, told her, he had been to get some shirts that were mending, and had locked himself out. The maid, on opening the windows, first below and then above, by degrees discovered that there had been a robbery; and, by some blood on the stairs, suspected her lady was murdered. She told him, from time to time, what things she missed as she went about the house, and lastly with the blood on the stairs; on which he desired she would go into her lady's room, and see if it were really so; she consented, and he went

to the door with her; she presently returned, crying, "It is so! it is so!" Going immediately to a gentleman, who was nephew to his master, he acquainted him that somebody had broke into the house, and, suspecting the maid, who had been out all night, she was taken before a justice, who, on hearing her examination, thought proper to send for Henderson, which summons he readily obeyed.

At first he denied the facts, and accused two innocent persons; but, being much confounded by the cross-questions put to him, he at length confessed the truth. He appealed to all that knew him for the irreproachableness of his life before this happened; and again acknowledged himself the only person guilty of, and privy to, the murder; affirming, that he was not prompted either by malice or interest, and never thought of committing so dreadful a crime, until a quarter of an hour before the perpetration of it.

He was tried for this horrid murder at the Old Bailey; and the jury brought in their verdict guilty, DEATH.

On the Wednesday before his execution, the clergyman, who attended him, pressed him to make a more ample confession, and discover his motive for committing so unparalleled a murder, which there

was the greatest reason to believe he concealed, He then gave the following account: that, about eight or ten days before his guilty act, he was dressing his master, when his lady coming into the room, he happened to tread on her foot. She did not at that time notice it with angry words, but frowned, expressive of her resentment, and he conceived she imagined he did it purposely, though he solemnly declared it was entirely accidental. When his master had dressed and gone out, his lady came into his master's dressing-room, and asked him, "what he meant by treading on her foot?" he replied, "Madam, I did it not on purpose, I humbly beg pardon." She said, "Matthew, I'll turn you out of doors immediately, for you have behaved very rudely to me;" and then gave him a box on the ear. He said, "Madam, you need not threaten with turning me out of doors; if you please, I will go out." He confessed his lady did not continue long in this passion, and that no servant was ever better treated.

He appeared to have been a person of strong passions, great pride, and quick resentment, by the following circumstance:—Two days before Christmas-day, 1744, he was so exasperated at a sergeant in the guards, that he was determined to kill him;

and went so far as to load two pistols for that purpose; but an opportunity not happening, his remorse got the better of his resentment. It is, therefore, very easy to conceive that the idea of a blow, as he apprehended undeserved, from a person who, until then, always had behaved to him with kindness and indulgence, acting on such a temper as his, in concurrence with an unexpected opportunity for that most heinous of passions—revenge, influenced him to the perpetration of this guilty and horrible crime, although he constantly affirmed, he did not think of the quarrel with his mistress.

He was executed on Friday, the 25th of February, 1746, on a gibbet erected for that purpose, opposite the end of Oxford-street, and was afterwards hanged in chains, by Edgware-road.

JOHN JAMES HEIDEGGER, ESQ.

# John James Heidegger.

JOHN JAMES HEIDEGGER was the son of a clergyman, and a native of Zurich, in Switzerland, where he married, but left his country in consequence of an intrigue; and, having visited the principal cities of Europe, in the humble station of a domestic, acquired a taste for elegant and refined pleasures, which, united to a strong inclination for voluptuousness, by degrees qualified him for the management of public amusements. When he was between forty and fifty years of age, he accompanied a nobleman to England, in the capacity of a genteel dependant companion; and by his sprightly, engaging conversation, and insinuating address, he soon worked himself into the good graces of our young people of fashion. The judicious remarks he made on several defects in the conduct of our Operas at that time, and the hints he threw out for improving the entertainments at the King's Theatre, soon established his character as a good critic. Appeals were made to his judgment;

and some very magnificent and elegant decorations, introduced upon the stage in consequence of his advice, gave such satisfaction to George the Second, who was fond of Operas, that, upon being informed to whose genius he was indebted for these improvements, his majesty was pleased from that time to countenance him, and he soon obtained the chief management of the Opera-house. He then set about improving another species of diversion, not less agreeable to the king, which was the masquerades; and over these he always presided at the King's Theatre. He was likewise appointed master of the revels. The nobility now caressed him so much, and had such an opinion of his taste, that all splendid and elegant entertainments given by them upon particular occasions, and all private assemblies by subscription, were submitted to his direction.

From the emoluments of these several employments, he gained a regular considerable income, amounting, it is said, in some years, to five thousand pounds, which he generally spent as easily and as fast as he gained it, so that it may be said, he raised an income, but never a fortune; his chief gratification being eating and drinking, which he indulged to excess, at a most enormous expense. He was a good judge of music,

and composed some operas: this is all we know of his mental abilities.

As to his person, though he was tall and well-made, it was uncommonly disagreeable, owing to an ugly face, scarcely human. But he was the first to joke upon his own ugliness; and he once laid a wager with Lord Chesterfield, that, within a certain time, his lordship would not be able to produce so hideous a face in all London. The time elapsed; Heidegger won the wager. Our readers will not be surprised to hear that the king condescended to request him to sit for his picture, but in vain; though the nobility, who were most intimate with him, and all his best patrons, urged the indecency of the refusal. This obstinacy gave rise to a very laughable adventure. The late facetious duke of Montague (the memorable author of the bottle-conjuror at the theatre in the Hay-market) gave an entertainment at the *Devil Tavern*, Temple-bar, to several of the nobility and gentry, selecting the most convivial, and a few hard drinkers, who were all in the plot. Heidegger was invited; and, in a few hours after dinner, was made so dead drunk that he was carried out of the room, and laid insensible upon a bed. A profound sleep ensued; when the late Mrs. Salmon's daughter was introduced, who took a mould

from his face in plaister of Paris. From this a mask was made, and a few days before the next masquerade (at which the king promised to be present, with the Countess of Yarmouth) the duke made application to Heidegger's valet-de-chambre, to know what suit of clothes he was likely to wear; and then procuring a similar dress, and a person of the same stature, he gave him his instructions. On the evening of the masquerade, as soon as his majesty was seated (who was always known by the conductor of the entertainment, and the officers of the court, though concealed by his dress from the company) *Heidegger*, as usual, ordered the music to play *God save the King;* but his back was no sooner turned, than the false *Heidegger* ordered them to strike up *Charley over the water.* The whole company was instantly thunderstruck, and all the courtiers, not in the plot, were thrown into a stupid consternation. *Heidegger* flew to the music-gallery, swore, stamped, and raved, accused the musicians of drunkenness, or of being set on by some secret enemy to ruin him. The king and the countess laughed so immoderately, that they hazarded a discovery. While *Heidegger* staid in the gallery, *God save the King* was the tune; but when, after setting matters to rights, he retired to one of the

dancing-rooms, to observe if decorum were kept by the company, the counterfeit stepping forward, and placing himself upon the floor of the theatre, just in front of the music-gallery, called out, in a most audible voice, imitating *Heidegger*, damned them for blockheads, had he not just told them to play *Charley over the water!* A pause ensued; the musicians, who knew his character, in their turn thought him either drunk or mad; but as he continued his vociferation, *Charley* was played again. At this repetition of the supposed affront, some of the officers of the guards, who always attended upon these occasions, were for ascending the gallery, and kicking the musicians out; but the late Duke of *Cumberland*, who could hardly contain himself, interposed. The company was thrown into great confusion. "Shame! shame!" resounded from all parts, and *Heidegger* once more flew into a violent rage to that part of the theatre facing the gallery. Here the Duke of *Montague* artfully addressing himself to him, told him the king was in a violent passion, that his best way was to go instantly and make an apology, for certainly the musicians were mad, and afterwards to discharge them. Almost at the same instant, he ordered the false *Heidegger* to do the same. The scene now became truly comic in

the circle before the king. *Heidegger* had no sooner made a genteel apology for the insolence of his musicians; but the false *Heidegger* advanced, and in a plaintive tone, cried out, "Indeed, Sire, it was not my fault, but that Devil's in my likeness." Poor *Heidegger* turned round, stared, staggered, grew pale, and could not utter a word. The duke then humanely whispered in his ear the sum of his plot; and the counterfeit was ordered to take off his mask. Here ended the frolic; but *Heidegger* swore he would never attend any public amusement, if that witch the wax-work woman did not break the mould, and melt down the mask before his face.

To this occurrence the following imperfect stanzas, transcribed from the hand-writing of *Pope*, are supposed to relate. They were found on the back of a page containing some part of his translation, either of the Iliad or Odyssey, in the *British Museum*.

## XIII.

Then he went to the side-board, and call'd for much liquor,
And glass after glass he drank quicker and quicker;
So that *Heidegger* quoth,
Nay, saith on his oath,
Of two hogsheads of *Burgundy*, *Satan* drank both.

Then all like a ——— the *devil* appear'd,
And straight the whole tables of dishes he clear'd;
Then a friar, then a nun,
And then he put on
A face all the company took for his own.
Even thine, O false *Heidegger!* who wert so wicked
To let in the Devil ———

Being once at supper with a large company, when a question was debated, which nationalist of *Europe* had the greatest ingenuity; to the surprise of all present he claimed that character for the *Swiss*, and appealed to himself for the truth of it. I was born a *Swiss*, said he, and came to England without a farthing, where I have found means to gain 5000*l.* a-year, and to spend it. Now I defy the most able *Englishman* to go to *Switzerland*, and either to gain that income, or to spend it there in eating and drinking! He died Sept. 4, 1749, at the advanced age of ninety years.

He was exceedingly charitable; and it was well known that, after a successful masquerade, he has given away several hundred pounds at a time. This contributed very much to his carrying on such diversion with so little opposition as he met with.

*Pope*, in the Dunciad, I. 289, calls the bird which attended on the goddess,

> " ——— a monster of a fowl,
> " Something betwixt a *Heidegger* and owl;"

And explains *Heidegger* to mean " a strange bird from *Switzerland*, and not (as some have supposed) the name of an eminent person, who was a man of parts, and, as was said of *Petronius*, *arbiter elegantiarum*."

Heidegger resided some time at Barn-elms, Surrey, where he had the honour of entertaining King George the Second; on which occasion, the elm-trees, then lofty and spreading, were decorated with a great number of lamps, hanging from their branches, which beautifully illuminated the avenue and meadows.

END OF VOL. III.

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